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Beloved: Christ suffered for sins once, the righteous for the sake of the unrighteous, that he might lead you to God. Put to death in the flesh, he was brought to life in the Spirit.

— 1 Peter 3:18

# The Catholic

## NEWS & HERALD

Campus ministry  
brings Christ,  
skills to students

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MARCH 7, 2003

SERVING CATHOLICS IN WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA IN THE DIOCESE OF CHARLOTTE

VOLUME 12 No 24

## The Times and sexual abuse by priests

By FATHER ANDREW GREELEY

SPECIAL TO THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

NEW YORK — The New York Times labored mightily to bring forth a mountain of priest abusers in its recent census and produced only a mouse, as it admitted in the 12th paragraph of its sensationalist prose in "Decades of Damage" (Jan. 12, 2003).

The Times reported a percent of American priests not greatly different from that of Cardinal Ratzinger: 1 percent for the cardinal and 1.8 percent for the Times. Yet The Times used this very low proportion to launch still another attack on the Catholic Church and the celibate priesthood.

I have, for the record, been warning church leader-

ship since 1985 that it was "sitting on an atom bomb" created by the reassignment of abusive priests. One victim of a priest is one too many. One reassigned abuser is one too many. The number of 1,205 abusing priests and 4,268 victims is horrific.

However, if the Ratzinger/Times estimates are anywhere near the reality, 98 percent of American priests are not abusers, a point The Times neglects to make and which ought to have been the lead in an unbiased news report.

I suspect that the Ratzinger/Times estimates are too low, but double the number to 4 percent—which I suspect is closer to the truth—

See TIMES, page 15

## Deacons recommit themselves to ministry

Ordination anniversaries celebrated at annual event

By REV. MR. GERALD POTKAY

CORRESPONDENT

BELMONT — The permanent deacons of the Diocese of Charlotte gathered for their annual recommitment to the diocese at the Sisters of Mercy campus March 1.

It was also a time for honoring those deacons celebrating their 15th, 20th and 25th anniversaries of ordination.

The event was held in the Sisters of Mercy's Curtin Hall, offering members of the

diocese's first two diaconate classes a nostalgic journey into their past — the first group attended diaconal classes at the Sisters of Mercy Sacred Heart College; the second group at the college and at Belmont Abbey College.

"Coming back to the Sisters of Mercy brings back a lot of memories," said Rev. Mr. Bernard Wenning, who celebrated his 15th ordination anniversary.

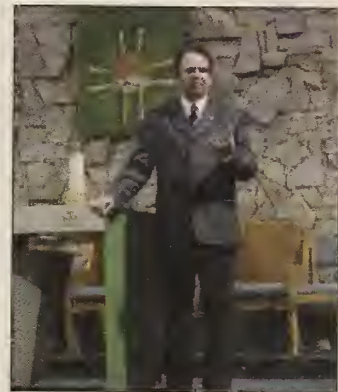
See DEACONS, page 6

## Mary sends messenger of hope



PHOTOS BY KAREN A. EVANS

Medjugorje visionary Ivan Dragicevic meets guests at a reception after addressing several hundred people at St. Thomas Aquinas Church March 3. Dragicevic is one of the six visionaries from Medjugorje who have been visited by Mary since 1981. Dragicevic spoke of the importance and power of prayer, especially in today's "spiritually ill" world. "Live with peace in your hearts ... and you will learn that peace is God's gift," Dragicevic said.



## Peace can be obtained through prayer, fasting

By KAREN A. EVANS  
STAFF WRITER

CHARLOTTE — On June 24, 1981, six young people in Medjugorje, Yugoslavia were walking home when they saw an apparition of Mary holding the infant Jesus.

Twenty-two years later, Mary continues to appear daily to three of the visionaries, and she appears yearly to the

others. Each time she speaks to one of them, she spreads Jesus' message of peace and love.

Ivan Dragicevic, one of the visionaries who still sees Mary daily, conveyed this message to several hundred people who gathered at St. Thomas Aquinas Church March 3.

At 6:40 p.m., in the midst of praying the rosary, Dragicevic rose from his knees,

walked to the altar and knelt on the steps. A basket filled with prayer intentions was placed in front of him.

Dragicevic knelt for several minutes, his eyes fixed just above the altar, hands clasped. He nodded several times and shook his head once. Finally, he

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### Forty-six Christian churches asked to consider unity plan

WASHINGTON (CNS) — A plan to foster a greater united Christian witness in the United States has been sent to 46 Christian church bodies for consideration. The proposal for what is provisionally called Christian Churches Together in the U.S.A. outlines a vision for the most inclusive Christian organization ever in the United States, said a Feb. 28 news release from the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. The news release outlined the proposal and quoted from supporters, including Cardinal William H. Keeler of Baltimore. "Please God, we are moving toward creating an instrument that will help make more visible the spiritual bonds among Christians in the United States," said the cardinal.

### College students take business ethics to competitive level

ARLINGTON, Va. (CNS) — Insider information, questionable hiring practices and cost-cutting practices went from being the stuff of headlines to the makings of a competition at a recent Ethics Bowl at Marymount University in Arlington. Student teams from 15 independent Virginia colleges spent all day Feb. 24 tackling a variety of ethical issues in elimination rounds where they were judged by a team of Virginia business and community leaders. By the day's end, Marymount University and Bridgewater College in Bridgewater were left to argue the final questions, including one that examined the fair compensation for a CEO who earned millions for making a company profitable, but had partly accomplished this by imposing aggressive cost-cutting measures, layoffs and salary freezes. The teams had to determine if the fictional CEO's success justified his ample salary, especially in light of the average employee compensation.

### Pope sends Cardinal Laghi to U.S. to confer with Bush on Iraqi crisis

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope John Paul II sent a personal envoy, Italian Cardinal Pio Laghi, to Washington to confer with President George W. Bush and press for a peaceful solution to the Iraqi crisis. The move, which had



CNS PHOTO FROM REUTERS

### Father of Jessica Santillan comforts his wife

Melicio Huerta comforts his wife, Magdalena Santillan, as she kneels at the casket of their daughter, Jessica Santillan, at Louisburg College in Louisburg, N.C., Feb. 23. Jessica, 17, died after a second transplant surgery at Duke University Medical Center failed to correct the problem of mismatched blood that occurred during her first transplant at the center. The Mexican family attends Our Lady of the Rosary parish in Louisburg.

been under discussion at the Vatican for weeks, was the pope's latest effort to head off a war he fears could cause a humanitarian crisis and provoke new global tensions. Cardinal Laghi, a former Vatican ambassador to the United States and a longtime friend of Bush's father, former President George H.W. Bush, was expected to arrive in Washington March 3 bearing a papal message for the current president.

### Pope's anti-war statements bring e-mail avalanche of support

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope

John Paul II's frequent appeals against a war in Iraq have made him a lightning rod for peace sentiment worldwide — and he has the e-mails to prove it. Hundreds of e-mailed messages were arriving daily at the Vatican in early March, offering support for the pope's anti-war statements and encouragement for further peace moves, Vatican spokesman Joaquin Navarro-Valls said. Navarro-Valls lifted a stack of 1,500 e-mails that arrived in a 36-hour period March 1-3. What made the cyber-correspondence even more amazing was that the pope does not have an e-mail address. So

where are the people sending their electronic messages? To the only e-mail link on the Vatican's [www.vatican.va](http://www.vatican.va) site: the page where journalists can request accreditation at the Vatican press office.

### Catholic-Muslim dialogue group condemns proposed war against Iraq

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — A Catholic-Muslim dialogue committee condemned the planned war on Iraq, saying it could increase political instability in the Middle East as well as tensions between Christians and Muslims around the world. Representatives of the Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue and the Permanent Committee for Dialogue with the Monotheistic Religions of Egypt's Al-Azhar University, the center of Sunni Muslim learning, met Feb. 24-25 in Cairo. "The main topic for discussion was the phenomenon of terrorism and the responsibility of religions to confront it," said a statement published March 1 and released at the Vatican. Dialogue participants discussed the likely consequences of a war in Iraq, it said. "The committee condemned recourse to war as a means of resolving conflicts between nations," it said. "War is a proof that humanity has failed."

### CORRECTIONS

In "Working for workers' rights" (Feb. 21), the St. Martin de Porres Catholic Worker House is an "intentional community," not an "international community."

Also, the workers' rights workshop will be held in Lenoir (not Wilkesboro), March 17, 6:30-8:30 p.m., at the Centro Latino, 916 West Ave., Suite 210. It will be conducted in Spanish and is free and open to the public. For more information, call the Centro Latino at (828) 754-0904, or the Workers' Center at (828) 320-6212.

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## Diocesan planner

### March

**9 CHARLOTTE** — Christopher Columbus Italian Club of Charlotte will be celebrating the Feast of St. Joseph tonight with a St. Joseph's altar, a blessing of the altar by Father Ignatius Zampino of St. Thomas Aquinas, a meatless Lenten meal and a collection of canned goods for Loaves and Fishes. The celebration will be at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 7523 Idlewild Rd. The meeting begins at 4 p.m. with a social hour; the program takes place from 5:30-6:30; and dinner will begin at 6:30.

**9 WINSTON-SALEM** — Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Community is offering a Lenten Retreat led by Reverend David Valtierra, C.O., director of the Oratory Center for Spirituality. The retreat theme is "Lenten Transformation: Untold Stories from Mark's

Community" — a journey through death to resurrection with Mark's Gospel as our spiritual map. The sessions will begin at 7:30 p.m. each evening at Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church, 1919 South Main St. For details call (336) 722-7001.

**9 CHARLOTTE** — A charismatic Mass will be held at St. Patrick Cathedral, 1621 Dilworth Rd. East, this afternoon at 4 p.m. with prayer teams at 3 p.m. and a potluck dinner at 5 p.m. in the school cafeteria. For further information, contact Susan Lew at (704) 849-0214.

**11 BELMONT ABBEY** — Jay Oden will present an organ concert on Belmont Abbey Basilica's grand organ tonight at 8 p.m. as part of the 2002-03 Arts at the Abbey Series. The program will feature music from the baroque and romantic periods through the 20th century. Oden is the organist/music associate at First United Methodist Church in Gastonia. For details call (704) 334-3468.

**11 CHARLOTTE** — The St. Gabriel Church Arthritis Support and Educa-

tion Group will meet this morning from 10-11 a.m. in Room D of the parish ministry center located at 3016 Providence Rd. For further details, call (704) 362-5047, Ext. 217.

**12 CHARLOTTE** — The 50+ Club of St. John Neumann Church, 8451 Idlewild Rd., will be conducting a meeting this morning at 11 a.m. with a program and lunch in the parish center. Donations are being accepted during the meeting. For more information, call Lucille Kroboth at (704) 537-2189.

**12 GREENSBORO** — Many of us want to do "something extra" during Lent. The Greensboro Council of Catholic Women will host their annual Lenten mini-retreat today and each Wednesday through April 9 at St. Benedict Church, 109 West Smith St. Mass will be at 10 a.m. followed by refreshments. For information call Janet Law at (336) 288-6022.

**12 CHARLOTTE** — Agree with the death penalty? Disagree with the death penalty? Either way, find out the importance of a moratorium on the death penalty.



### Fussing youngsters at worship services draw differing responses

PORTLAND, Ore. (CNS) — Msgr. Philip Murnion of the New York-based National Pastoral Life Center tells this joke: "A baby starts crying loudly in Mass during the sermon. The mother stands up to take him out. 'Don't worry, he can stay,' the priest says from the pulpit. 'He's not bothering me.' The woman says, 'Thanks, Father, but it's you who are bothering him.'" Other than that, Msgr. Murnion is not sure what to say about the topic of noisy or restless children in church. "I'd just be making it up," the expert on parish life says of the highly sensitive and universal issue. He is not the only Catholic who is ambivalent and confused. In most U.S. parishes there seem to be three main beliefs about fussing youngsters and worship. Some pastors and parents welcome the sounds as signs of parish vibrancy. Others think parents are shirking their duty to teach children how to behave at Mass. The third — and largest — group of priests and parishioners tend to accept that children make noise, but favor nurseries and cry rooms as a way to keep the peace.

### Papal advance team visits Mongolia to explore possible visit

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — A papal advance team traveled to Mongolia to explore the possibility of a visit this summer by Pope John Paul II, Vatican Radio said. Citing the papal nuncio in Mongolia, the radio reported Feb. 28 that Msgr. Renato Boccardo, the pope's trip organizer, was visiting the capital, Ulan Bator, to arrange a tentative program for a late-August visit. In a statement, papal spokesman Joaquin Navarro-Valls stressed that "neither a program nor a date for this possible trip" had been set. He said Mongolia's president extended an invitation to the pope in 2000, and a potential circumstance for the visit could be the inauguration of a Catholic cathedral in the Mongolian capital. A Vatican

official told Catholic News Service the potential visit was still in its earliest planning stages and had not yet been presented formally to the pope.

### New yearbook of churches reports giving, membership is up

NEW YORK (CNS) — Christian church giving, membership and secondary enrollment in the United States and Canada rose in 2001, says the new Yearbook of American and Canadian Churches. The 2003 edition of the yearbook was prepared for and edited by the National Council of Churches and published by Abingdon Press. Total U.S. church membership for 2001 was just under 159 million, an increase of about 6.8 million over the previous year, according to the yearbook. However, 5 million of that increase was due to the inclusion of the National Baptist Convention USA. That body had been excluded from the yearbook totals for three years while it underwent a re-evaluation of its membership counting methods. With that counting difference excluded, U.S. Christian church membership grew about 1.8 million, or 1.1 percent. The Catholic Church, with about 65.3 million members, remained the largest Christian denomination in the country. The Southern Baptist Convention, with slightly more than 16 million members, continued to be the largest Protestant body.

### Molotov cocktail causes minor damage at Chicago cathedral

CHICAGO (CNS) — A small fire, sparked by a Molotov cocktail, caused minor damage to Holy Name Cathedral in Chicago Feb. 22. Police described the device as a plastic bottle filled with a flammable liquid and a lighted rag stuffed in the neck. It was tossed into the State Street vestibule of the cathedral just after noon. A service was going on inside, but no one saw the person who threw the container. The approximately 100 people in the cathedral at the time were alerted by passers-by who saw smoke. The device was quickly extinguished; there were no injuries and damage was minor.

neighboring communities. The Pummills (parents and children) present an exhilarating and brilliant sound simultaneously on four pianos as well as the gentle sound of four a cappella voices. Tickets for the concert are available through the Choral Department at Charlotte Catholic High School. For ticket information, please contact the Charlotte Catholic High School Choral Department at (704) 543-1127.

**14 LEXINGTON** — Our Lady of the Rosary Church will host a soup and sandwich dinner at 5:30 p.m. every Friday during Lent, followed by Salesian Reflections and Lenten Devotion with Benediction. All are welcome to attend. For details call (336) 248-2463.

**15 MAGGIE VALLEY** — "Catholics and Cherokees: Learning From Each Other" will be presented from 1 to 3:30 p.m. today at St. Margaret Church's Murphy-Garland Hall, 1422 Soco Rd. This workshop will help Catholics understand the history of the Cherokee and current issues of major concern to them.

## CCHS teacher asked to step down

By KEVIN E. MURRAY  
ACTING EDITOR

CHARLOTTE — In a unanimous decision, the diocesan lay review board recommended to the Diocese of Charlotte that Mark Doherty not return to teaching.

Doherty, a religion teacher at Charlotte Catholic High School, was placed on administrative leave in February in light of public concern over past allegations made against him in the Archdiocese of Boston.

Msgr. Mauricio W. West, diocesan administrator, accepted the review board's recommendation March 5, as well as the board's recommendations to strengthen hiring policies.

"The Diocese of Charlotte must clearly demonstrate its commitment to provide an unquestionably safe environment for children and young people," said Msgr. West.

Linda Cherry, superintendent of diocesan schools, said she supported Msgr. West's decision to relieve Doherty from teaching.

"I was confident that the review board would accurately review all of the information," said Cherry. "This is one more step to ensure the safety of the students in the diocesan school system."

"The administration, faculty and staff of Charlotte Catholic High School, along with our parents and the larger CCHS community, are deeply saddened by these events," said Father James Cassidy, principal of Charlotte Catholic.

"We have confidence in those who are responsible for discerning what is best for our students, which is always our first priority," he said.

Archdiocese of Boston records made public Feb. 4 through a court order included allegations of sexual misconduct involving Doherty, reported to the archdiocese in the mid-1990s while Doherty was a transitional deacon.

The case was closed after an investigation by the archdiocese's review board found no substantiating evidence, and psychological evaluations con-

cluded that Doherty posed no threat to children or adults.

No criminal or civil proceedings were filed. Doherty, who came to work at Charlotte Catholic in the late 1990s, continues to maintain his innocence.

"How can unsubstantiated allegations that were never reported to legal officials or tried in court come back to haunt me 26 years later?" asked Doherty.

"I feel that I am being convicted in the media by rumor and speculation," he said. "America's principles of government state that a person is innocent until proven guilty. In this case, I am presumed guilty simply by having been accused."

As part of its investigation, the Charlotte review board employed a retired FBI agent to run criminal checks on Doherty in both North Carolina and Massachusetts. All checks came back clear, said their report.

Doherty said he is encouraged by the overwhelming support received from students, parents and faculty at Charlotte Catholic High School.

"I am continuing to take steps to again clear my name and return to teaching," he said.

The lay review board, established in the summer of 2002 for the purpose of reviewing allegations, recommended to the diocese that extensive background checks be conducted on all future diocesan candidates for teaching positions or those who are otherwise involved with children.

The diocesan school system currently has a similar policy in place; the policy is in the process of being updated and strengthened, said Msgr. West.

The review board also asked to personally review the files of any candidate for employment whose background investigation reveals allegations of misconduct before the candidate is hired, even if another diocese's review board had cleared the individual.

Msgr. West said a report would be made to the review board on the implementation of the recommendations.

**17 CHARLOTTE** — Christians in Career Transition is a ministry of St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy., devoted to helping people in career crises. The meetings will take place on the first and third Mondays of every month from 7-9 p.m. in the conference room. For more information, call Rev. Mr. Jim Hamrlik at (704) 576-0456.

**17 ASHEVILLE** — The St. Martin De Porres Pro-Chapter of the Dominican Laity will be meeting tonight and every third Monday at 7 p.m. in St. Justin's Center at the Basilica of St. Lawrence, 97 Haywood St. Inquirers are welcome. For more information, contact Beverly Reid, OPL, at (828) 253-6676.

**19 LEXINGTON** — Our Lady of the Rosary Church will participate in the noon Lenten Service held at The First United Methodist Church on Main St. A luncheon will follow and all are invited to attend. For details please call (336) 248-2463.

St. Peter Church, will present author, attorney and speaker James P. Cooney, III and Father Mark Horak, SJ, parochial vicar of St. Peter Church, tonight at 7 p.m. in Biss Hall, 507 S. Tryon St. A light dinner will be served at 6:15 p.m. for a small donation. For details call (704) 332-2901.

**13 LEXINGTON** — Our Lady of the Rosary Church will begin its parish mission tonight at 7 p.m. in Rosary Hall and continues Thursday evening from 7-9 p.m. A lunch will be held Thursday at 11 a.m. Presenter for the Mission will be Father Richard DeLillio, an Oblate of St. Francis DeSales. For details call (336) 248-2463.

**14 CHARLOTTE** — The Charlotte Catholic High School Choral Connection (Parents' Choral Support Group) welcomes the Pummill Family to Charlotte tonight at 7:30 p.m. for their ClaviVoce concert at Dana Auditorium, Queens University. Doug and Janet Pummill both taught at Queens in the late '60s and were active in many musical endeavors throughout Charlotte and

Cherokee presenters will discuss history, culture, government and current justice issues. Catholic Social Teachings will be linked to Cherokee issues. For details and registration, call Mary Herr at (828) 497-9498 or email maryherr@dnnet.net, or call St. Margaret Church at (828) 926-0106.

**16 CHARLOTTE** — St. Thomas Aquinas Church, 1400 Suther Rd., will be hosting an Ultreya today at 1:30 p.m. There will be a family potluck and childcare will be available. For more information, call Dan Hines at (704) 544-6665 or visit www.charlottecursillo.org. To receive Cursillo information via e-mail contact bmayer@alltell.net.

**17 CHARLOTTE** — The Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians Division 1 Mecklenburg County-St. Brigid, an Irish-Catholic social and charitable inter-parish group, will meet tonight at 7:30 p.m. at St. Gabriel Church, 3016 Providence Rd. Anyone interested in their Irish-Catholic roots, call Jeanmarie Schuler at (704) 554-0720 for further information.



# She shoots, she scores

*St. Ann School teacher organizes tournament*

By KAREN A. EVANS  
STAFF WRITER

CHARLOTTE — Player No. 41 for Charleston Day School (CDS) threw the basketball toward the net. It passed through with a resounding swish.

CDS was one of 16 teams that came to Charlotte March 1-2 to compete in the Frances Ott Memorial Basketball Tournament. The teams were made up of sixth-, seventh- and eighth-graders from several schools and churches.

The tournament was hosted by Holy Trinity Middle School to raise money for a scholarship for a qualified Holy Trinity student. Kym Straughn, a teacher at St. Ann School and coach at Holy Trinity, and R.C. Deer, a teacher and coach at Holy Trinity, organized the two-day event to honor Straughn's late cousin, Frances Ott.

Ott, a nursing student in Charleston, S.C. was born with a rare skin disease, lamellar ichthyosis. This disease prevents the sufferer from perspiring and therefore causes overheating to be a life-threatening situation.

Ott was expected to live for only one year, but she survived to age 21, when she passed away last October following a car accident.

"This disease did not define Frances as a person," Straughn wrote in a tribute to her cousin. "She was always there with a smile on her face no matter what obstacles lay ahead. Frances was tough and even though she was younger than me, I looked up to her."

Eight boys' teams and eight girls' teams represented Holy Trinity, Providence Day School, St. Matthew Church and St. John Neumann Church in Charlotte; St. Stephen Lutheran Church in Hickory; CDS and Mason Preparatory School in Charleston; Stewards of the Game in Huntersville; and St. Michael Church in Gastonia.

The funds were raised from team entrance fees, donations, corporate sponsors, T-shirt sales and concessions. With the exception of the referees, the entire staff was comprised of volunteers.

Before the final tally, Straughn and Deer estimated that they had raised enough money to give two partial scholarships, one each for a boy and a girl, which would cover 75 percent of their tuition at Holy Trinity.

After the tournament, that estimate changed to more than \$5,000.

"We are both sort of in shock because we had no idea to expect that much. That may be enough to give more than two partial scholarships," Straughn said.

Response to the tournament was overwhelming, Straughn said.

"We only planned on four teams each (of girls and boys), but we got so much interest that we expanded it to eight," said Deer, who is the coach of Holy Trinity seventh-grade boys' team.

The corporate support also exceeded their expectations.

"We were still receiving checks after the deadline," Straughn said. "We ran out of room on the back of the T-shirts to print all of the names."



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

**Teams from Charleston Day School and Stewards of the Game in Huntersville compete in the Frances Ott Memorial Basketball Tournament March 2. Sixteen teams participated in the two-day tournament that raised funds for scholarships for Holy Trinity students.**

On Sunday evening, Ott's parents presented trophies to St. Stephen's Lutheran School of Hickory, whose teams won both the boys' and girls' final games. Runner-up trophies were awarded to the girls' team from Mason Prep in Charleston and Holy Trinity's seventh-grade boys' team.

Straughn and Deer are already planning next year's tournament, which they hope to expand even further.

Contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans by calling (704) 370-3354 or e-mail [kaevans@charlottediocese.org](mailto:kaevans@charlottediocese.org).

# RCIA Commission addresses conversion, evangelization

By KAREN A. EVANS  
STAFF WRITER

CHARLOTTE — "Who is Jesus and why does it matter that he lived?"

Margie Sullivan, staff member of the North American Forum on the Catechumenate, addressed that question at the Diocesan RCIA Commission workshop for RCIA facilitators at St. Thomas Aquinas Church Feb. 22.

The workshop focused on the pre-catechumenate period of the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA). RCIA is the rite that prepares adults to receive the sacraments of baptism, confirmation and the Eucharist.

The central theme of the pre-catechumenate period is inquiry: what we do as Catholics and why we do it.

The pre-catechumenate period is not a time for instruction, Sullivan said, but rather a period of evangelization. During this time, the inquirers' focus should be on the conversion experience.

"Faith and initial conversion is being called away from sin into the mystery of God," Sullivan said.

She described the pre-catechumenate period as a dance: a back-and-forth sharing of experiences and feelings, then giving the catechumens and candidates the opportunity to contemplate what they have learned.

"Let inquirers set the agenda for meetings," Sullivan urged RCIA facilitators. "They know what topics need to be addressed." Sessions need to be flexible

to meet the needs of inquirers, she said.

Sullivan suggested that catechists share personal stories about their own faith experiences as a way to reveal Christ and to encourage inquirers to share their own feelings.

"Invite the catechumen to tell a story, then make a connection between their story and the story we carry as the body of Christ," she said.

"There is nothing more powerful than a personal story ... a true story is like manna from heaven," Sullivan quoted Episcopal priest and writer Tom Ehrich.

The primary minister of initiation is the community, not just the priests, women religious, deacons or RCIA coordinators, Sullivan said. It is the responsibility of the entire parish to evangelize the catechumens.

"Evangelization is passing on the good news and sharing the wealth," she said. "How we live is how we evangelize. Our lives need to be clear evidence of who God is."

"The North American Forum is such a knowledgeable resource," said Leigh C. Miller, director of Religious Education at St. Ann Church in Charlotte. "It is exciting to hear about the rite and we are eager to fulfill the vision of complete implementation."

Contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans by calling (704) 370-3354 or e-mail [kaevans@charlottediocese.org](mailto:kaevans@charlottediocese.org).



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

**Margie Sullivan speaks to RCIA coordinators at the Diocesan RCIA Commission workshop at St. Thomas Aquinas Church. Sullivan addressed the inquiry period of RCIA, in which candidates and catechumens discern their relationship with God and their desire to become Catholic.**



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Frank LaPointe, President, Member of St. Gabriel Church



# To Linda, with love

## Parish honors 'dynamo' secretary

By DIANNE M.A. RIGGS  
CORRESPONDENT

SWANNANOVA — Various described as a guidance counselor and stand-up comedienne, as well as "dynamo" secretary, Linda Boyers was the focus of a celebration at St. Margaret Mary Church Feb. 23 in appreciation of her years of devotion as parish secretary.

An estimated 140 people crowded the fellowship hall to tease, joke, tell stories and offer their heart-felt thanks for almost a decade of service.

At her post, Boyers was much more than the person at the computer or the office telephone.

"When I had my accident, she brought my mail, ran errands, drove me to Hickory. She gave my faith more strength even when she did not feel well," said Father Andy Latsko, pastor. "She showed me what it is to love Jesus."

"(Linda) was totally dedicated ... to her 'calling' — it was more than a job," said Mary Weber, president of the Ladies' Guild. "She let us know what we could do to help others, which is an important thing."

Boyers is also known for being funny and unpredictable. She once asked parishioner George Frazier if he would become head usher before he was even an usher. When Boyers asked parishioner Barbara Freeman what she needed after a fire in Freeman's house, the response was "light bulbs." A few days later, Freeman received a box filled with light bulbs for every conceivable purpose.

Many people who came to the church office for something as simple as a bulletin inclusion came away a half hour or more later realizing they had just found a wonderful friend in Boyers.

Boyers began at the church as a volunteer in 1994 after an illness left her unable to return to work at the Blue Ridge Mental

Health Center. A year or so later, Father Latsko hired her full time.

"She was a great parish administrator," said parishioner Douglas Thigpen, who co-coordinated the celebration with Weber. "She oversaw everything and let Father Andy do what he does best."

Several circumstances of Boyers' previous life seemed to come together perfectly for her secretarial position: Twelve years in Catholic schools — first in Massachusetts, then in Florida; a stint in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam era; her life as a military wife; and her many years as a substance abuse counselor.

She is comfortable with many different kinds of people and listens with an attentive ear. She is also a take-charge person who accomplishes tasks efficiently. In addition, Boyers has great devotion to the Catholic Church, its Mass and its priests.

According to Weber,

during Father Latsko's approximately four-month absence due to a car accident, Boyers searched for visiting priests and made arrangements for them. She took care of everything from picking them up at airports and laying out their vestments before Masses, to stripping their beds in the old rectory.

"And," said Weber, "Linda did it lovingly."

A few months ago, a second illness forced Boyers to leave the St. Margaret Mary secretarial position. But her faith continues to grow.

"I realized how much I needed to continue to grow and that growing is never finished," she said. "It's one thing to talk your faith; it's another thing to walk your faith. That's what I'm learning this time."

At St. Margaret Mary Church, many people who experienced the faith and courage of their "jack of all trades" secretary would agree that Linda Boyers is already "walking her faith."



Linda Boyers

# Ministering to tomorrow's leaders

## Campus ministry brings Christ, skills to students

By KEVIN MURRAY  
ACTING EDITOR

CHARLOTTE — Campus ministry continues to make a difference in the lives of college students.

Paul Welsh, the campus minister at Appalachian State University in Boone, started a unique leadership initiative for his campus ministry students.

"They run the place," said Welsh. "I look upon my responsibilities as a facilitator."

When Welsh, a former IBM employee, took over as campus minister two years ago, he assembled a group of students to tell him the needs of the ministry.

"The following year, a group of leaders was formed according to those needs," said Welsh. "We had students fill out applications to become these leaders, then we had a discernment to see who would fill the positions."

At the start of the 2002 academic year, four students were selected to oversee the indicated needs: Spiritual, Service, Social and Public Relations. Two students were chosen to oversee Operations. Next year, a new group of leaders will be selected.

### Empowerment

The leadership positions teach the students responsibility and how to delegate, said Welsh.

For example, the operations leaders are responsible for finding students to cook the meals for the ministry's Wednesday dinners. The spiritual needs leader coordinates the spirituality sessions after the dinners.

"I try to let them make the decisions so they have ownership of them," said Welsh. "When they come in with (an idea), they have convictions and it helps them to grow."

"The students needed someone to direct them and teach them to be leaders."

Paul is excellent for that," said Colleen McDermott, director of diocesan Campus and Young Adult Ministry. "He brings his expertise from the business world to working with the students."

Welsh intends to make sure the students have at least "two successes" each year in their various projects.

"I believe it helps them later in life," said Welsh. "I can definitely see a difference in one year in several individuals. They've changed for the better — they're more confident in what they're doing here. Hopefully, that will help them in other things."

Since the student leaders have taken charge of campus ministry needs, "Our numbers have increased in the activities," said Welsh. Approximately 80 students are currently involved in the university's campus ministry.

Appalachian features alternative spring breaks, in which students spend their vacation doing service and volunteer work. Welsh said approximately seven of the 10 students participating in an alternative spring break are involved in campus ministry.

### Positive alternatives

For many students, campus ministry is an alternative to typical campus life.

"It's a place for them to be away from the dorms and the campus life," said Welsh. "It gives them some peace of mind and security, and some of them need that."

"College is a time in young people's lives when they're exploring what they believe in," said Conventional Franciscan Father Jude DeAngelo. "To know that campus ministry is there, they know someone's there if they have questions. Whatever they need, the

See CAMPUS MINISTRY, page 16

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## DEACONS, from page 1

Rev. Mr. Wenning, the permanent deacon at St. Gabriel Church in Charlotte, is also the diocesan coordinator of the permanent diaconate.

"I never looked at myself in a leadership role for the diaconate," he said. "However, the Spirit had his way and that is why I am here now. I find it very rewarding."

Msgr. Anthony Kovacic, the first vicar of deacons for the diocese, served as the homilist at Mass. He said he saw the diaconate "as a special gift to the church and to the diocese." To the deacons, he said, "You are the fruits of this work. You are servants to every family and person in the diocese. My best wishes to all of you and may God bless you."

During the presentation of diaconal crosses, with the numerical number of years of each deacon's service embossed on them, Diocesan Administrator Msgr. Mauricio W. West, who once coordinated the diaconate, addressed the deacons.

"You have the opportunity to put faith into action in spite of individual failings or infidelities of the past," he said. "For you are a reminder of Christ's love, grace and healing to all whom you serve."

A deacon, an ordained minister in the Catholic Church, is one of the three forms of the sacrament of Holy Orders, the origins of which can be found in the Acts of the Apostles.

The diaconate flourished during the second and third centuries, but soon began to decline due to a number of factors, including: the importance of the Eucharist; the growing tension between the Presbyteria and the diaconate; and the various monasteries that took over some of the deacons' charitable responsibilities.

By the seventh century, deacons in the western church became a transitional step toward priesthood and the role of the deacon became primarily liturgical.

In 1964, the Second Vatican Council decreed that the diaconate could be restored as a permanent and separate rank in the Latin rite and that married men could be ordained to this rank. Pope Paul VI restored the permanent diaconate in 1967.

The ordained deacon's call to service



PHOTO BY REV. MR. GERALD POTKAY

### Permanent deacons and wives gather for the annual recommitment celebration in Belmont March 1.

allows him to function as a minister of the Word (in preaching catechetical instruction, retreat ministry and/or counseling); allows him to be a visible reminder that there is a link between liturgy and the church's service to others in Christ's name; and serves the parish in those areas he is most adept.

"As a deacon, I am able to reach out to people in need," said Rev. Mr. Timothy Rohan of Our Lady of Grace Church in Greensboro and vicar for the Triad area, who is celebrating his 15th year of ordination. "And now that I am retired I am able to help even more both spiritually and liturgically."

"These last 20 years seem like a few days, really, but these last two have been a real challenge," said Rev. Mr. Harold Markle, permanent deacon of the newly built but yet unnamed church in Dobson.

"This is a new situation, where I didn't know anyone and now have to learn a new culture and language that will lead to better understanding and shared cultures," he said. "This is the highlight of my diaconate."

"As an attorney, there is a lot of advice needed, especially in the vocation of marriage," said Rev. Mr. Dennis O'Madigan of St. Leo the Great Church in Winston-Salem. "It is also a privilege to be on prison ministry and visiting the 'throw away people' every week. That's a joy to see the results of these endeavors."

Contact Correspondent Rev. Mr. Gerald Potkay by calling (336) 427-8218 or e-mail [gpotkay@triad.rr.com](mailto:gpotkay@triad.rr.com).

## Deacons celebrating their ordination anniversaries were:

### 25 years

Rev. Mr. Robert Gettelfinger and Rev. Mr. Louis Pais, both of St. Gabriel Church in Charlotte; and Rev. Mr. Jerome Herbers of St. Mary Church in Sylva.

### 20 years

Rev. Mr. James Hamrlik of St. Matthew Church in Charlotte; Rev. Mr. Gerald Hickey of St. Vincent de Paul Church in Charlotte; Rev. Mr. Charles Knight of Our Lady of Consolation Church in Charlotte; Rev. Mr. Patrick Vallandingham of Sacred Heart Church in Salisbury; Rev. Mr. Joseph Mack, who is retired from St. John Neumann Church in Charlotte; Rev. Mr. Harold Markle, of the newly built but unnamed church in Dobson; Rev. Mr. Andrew Cilone of Immaculate Conception Church in Forest City; Rev. Mr. Hugo May of St. Aloysius in Hickory; Rev. Mr. Dennis O'Madigan of St. Leo the Great Church in Winston-Salem; Rev. Mr. Charles Desautels of St. Leo the Great Church; Rev. Mr. Franklin Manning of Christ the King in High Point; Rev. Mr. Gerald W. Potkay of Holy Infant in Reidsville; Rev. Mr. Joseph Schumacher of Our Lady of Mercy Church in Winston-Salem; Rev. Mr. Joseph Smith of Immaculate Heart of Mary Church in High Point; and Rev. Mr. Rudolph Triana, presently unassigned to a parish.

### 15 years

Rev. Mr. J. Daniel Carl of St. James Church in Concord; Rev. Mr. Peter Duca of Our Lady of the Assumption Church in Charlotte; and Rev. Mr. Curtiss Todd of Our Lady of Consolation Church in Charlotte and diocesan vice chancellor; Rev. Mr. Frank Aversa of St. John Baptist de La Salle in North Wilkesboro; Rev. Mr. Charles Brantley of St. Phillip the Apostle Church in Statesville; Rev. Mr. Ronald Caplette of St. Francis of Assisi Church in Lenoir; Rev. Mr. Eugene McGuirk of Immaculate Conception in Forest City; Rev. Mr. Guy Piché, director and chaplain of the Catholic Conference Center in Hickory; and Rev. Mr. Thomas Rasmussen, Jr. of St. Aloysius Church in Hickory; Rev. Mr. Timothy Rohan of Our Lady of Grace Church in Greensboro; Rev. Mr. Gerard Shaw of Holy Family in Clemmons; Rev. Mr. Vincent Shaw, Jr. of St. Mary Church in Greensboro; Rev. Mr. Carl Hubbell of St. William Church in Murphy; Rev. Mr. Arthur Kingsley of St. Barnabas in Arden and vicar for the Asheville Vicariate; and Rev. Mr. Louis Rinkus, retired from St. Eugene Church in Asheville.

Celebrating 15th ordination anniversaries while living outside the diocese were Rev. Mr. Eugene Gillis and Rev. Mr. Bruce Haslett.

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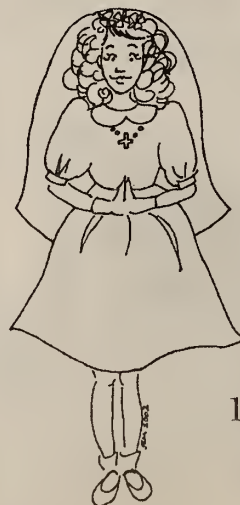
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# Parish priest leaving for war duty

*While in Kuwait, Rev. Peter Fitzgibbons will direct chaplains*

ALISA BLACKWOOD  
THE CHARLOTTE OBSERVER

STATESVILLE — It's often the youthful soldiers and high-ranking military officials heralded as the heroes during a war. But behind the scenes, there are people like the Rev. Peter Fitzgibbons, a Statesville priest who is trained for combat and has spent more than 13 years as a field and battalion chaplain, counseling soldiers as they battled the enemy.

For Fitzgibbons, now a chaplain major in the U.S. Army Reserves and pastor at St. Philip the Apostle Catholic Church in Statesville, fighting the good fight requires spiritual strength, prayer and an unwavering faith in God.

That's where he comes in.

While hundreds of thousands of American soldiers move into place to prepare for a likely U.S.-led attack against Iraq, a select group of religious figures trained for combat are also being sent abroad to minister to the men and women who may end up fighting the war.

Fitzgibbons, 49, has spent nearly seven years at St. Philip while working as a Reserves chaplain at the 312th field hospital in Greensboro. Now he's packing his belongings for a scheduled March 16 deployment to a Reserves unit in Louisiana. From there, he'll be shipped to Kuwait, where he'll coordinate ministry teams in the Middle East for the expected war.

"This involves making sure the right people are in the right positions to cover units, because chaplains will get hurt, they will get sick, they will have emergency leaves at home," he said.

Many of Fitzgibbons' duties will be formulated and learned once he arrives in the Persian Gulf, since for the first time in his Army career he'll be in planning

rather than out in the field.

"I've been out with the trigger pullers and out front. That's where I've done my work," Fitzgibbons said. "It was myself, my soldiers, a big empty area and the enemy. I've never been this far back in upstairs planning. It'll give me a whole other picture of the Army — what the Army does, how the Army fights."

"This is a completely new challenge."

Like anyone else in the Army, Fitzgibbons is trained to use a gas mask if necessary and trained in first aid, CPR and nuclear, biological and chemical decontamination procedures.

While in the Reserves, he's kept up with the required two days a month and

two weeks a year of training. He's also continued working for the Army while ministering at the church, by working at the Greensboro hospital, training junior chaplains and running classes on suicide prevention, substance abuse and combat stress.

With blue eyes, dark hair and clean-cut good looks that once landed him in an ad campaign for the Army, Fitzgibbons hardly looks old enough to have trav-

eled throughout the world with the military. But he left his boot imprints in Saudi Arabia and Iraq during the Gulf War and has worked in Korea, Cuba and Puerto Rico. He believes this line of work is part of his calling.

"There are many other priests who are far more talented, who are far better preachers, better administrators," Fitzgibbons said. "But this is one thing I can do. I can physically do it. A lot of priests can't keep up the physical work."

While abroad and at war, an Army chaplain must be a source of strength for

soldiers who need help to deal with what Fitzgibbons calls the "horrors of war."

"Anyone who's seen serious trigger time always has flashbacks," he said. "As a field chaplain, I've been there, done that. They (soldiers) can tell me things they can't tell their wives, about the horror of what happened — things they can't tell anyone outside this field. It's not as clean as the movies make it out to be."

Fitzgibbons has seen his share of atrocities and needs to prepare for the stress, emotionally and spiritually.

"That's why I pray," he said, adding that chaplains and soldiers also rely on each other for camaraderie and understanding. "The support of your soldiers helps you out a great deal. But it's necessary to become very holy."

Meanwhile, Fitzgibbons' parishioners have been preparing for his departure. He has kept them entertained with his quick wit and ready laugh.

"We've sort of been waiting for the shoe to drop. We knew it was a possibility he'd get called up," said Ward Newschwander as he left a recent morning Mass. "We just didn't know it would be this soon."

The church held a farewell potluck dinner Feb. 23 to say goodbye.

Fitzgibbons already knows these Statesville good-byes will be final ones. His parish post will not be held for him while he's away.

He'll be reassigned to a new parish once he returns from the Middle East. He has already ceased doing counseling at St. Philip so he can have time to pack and move out of the rectory.

Fitzgibbons fidgets under the spotlight, uncomfortable with the attention lavished on him before his departure.

"I'm having my 15 minutes of fame all at once. I have people telling me that I'm extraordinary, and I'm not. I'm just doing my job," he said. "This is my duty. This is one aspect of priesthood I have been given a talent for."

*Alisa Blackwood is a special correspondent with The Charlotte Observer. This story was reprinted with permission.*



Rev. Peter Fitzgibbons

## St. Peter Church parishioners win community award

CHARLOTTE — Mary Lou and Jim Babb, parishioners of St. Peter Church, are this year's Jane Lowe Odom Award recipients.

The award was presented by Summit House Charlotte at a special dinner Feb. 19.

Summit House Charlotte, the only alternative-to-prison residential program for non-violent women offenders and their children, presents the award to honor community members for their dedication to changing the lives of women, children and families.

The award is a tribute to the legacy of Odom, who dedicated her life to people, particularly women, who found themselves at odds with the law and in danger of being separated from their children. Odom's belief that children belong with their mothers and her determination to empower families to break the cycle of crime led to the establishment of Summit House Charlotte in 1995.

The Babbs were selected as recipients of the award due to their volunteerism with numerous organizations in support of Charlotte families.

Mary Lou Babb currently serves on the Summit House Advisor Board and has previously served on the following boards: YWCA Board of Directors; International House; Mint Museum; Foundation of the Carolinas; North Carolina Arts Council; and the Symphony Women's Guild.

Jim Babb, former president of Jefferson-Pilot Communications, is active with Catholic Social Services of Charlotte and has volunteered his time with the "Fight Night for Kids" event.

The award, a contemporary sculpture in serpentine stone created by Zimbabwean artist and sculptor Josian Chigodora of the Shona tribe, symbolizes the bond between mother and child and family unity, reflected in the Summit House logo.

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# Catholic abortion protester celebrates end of 17-year court battle

By JENNIFER LINDBERG  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

INDIANAPOLIS — To celebrate the Supreme Court's landmark decision that took away a major weapon for abortion clinics to stop protests, Joseph Scheidler is having a victory party.

"I'm going to find a great big hall and have a party with some action," said Scheidler, the man who has been fighting the National Organization for Women in court for 17 years over whether NOW could use a law meant for mobsters against pro-life demonstrators.

"I want to let the abortion industry know they are on their last leg," he said from his Chicago office, where he is the director of the Pro-Life Action League. "America has come to life."

On Feb. 26, the Supreme Court voted 8-1 that supporters of legal abortion could not use the federal Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act to sue the Pro-Life Action League, Operation Rescue or their leaders in their campaign against abortion and their protests at abortion clinics.

At the heart of the RICO charge was the claim that Scheidler was extorting abortion clinics because he interfered with an abortion clinic's ability to conduct business and make money.

The ruling strips NOW and other abortion organizations of a powerful legal weapon and it provides new hope for the pro-life movement.

"What we want to do through this is bring (pro-life) people back to the clinics," said Scheidler in a telephone interview with *The Criterion*, Indianapolis archdiocesan newspaper.

He predicts a new interest in abortion protests and more people praying and counseling women outside clinics.

A former monk at St. Meinrad Archabbey in Indiana, Scheidler said prayer and trust in God saw him through one of the toughest court battles facing the pro-life movement. He had left



CNS FILE PHOTO BY MARTIN LUEDERS

Anti-abortion activist Joseph Scheidler talks with the media outside the U.S. Supreme Court building last Dec. 4 after the court heard arguments in the cases *Joseph Scheidler and the Pro-Life Action League vs. the National Organization for Women and Operation Rescue vs. NOW*. The court ruled 8-1 that that a federal racketeering law did not apply to abortion clinic protesters. Scheidler has been involved in this legal battle for 17 years.

the monastery and married. He and his wife, Ann, have seven children and nine grandchildren.

Scheidler remembers when *Roe vs. Wade* made abortion legal. He was 45 years old and said he couldn't sit around doing nothing about the evil of allowing someone to kill an unborn child.

In the early days of the pro-life movement, abortion protestors would go into clinics and sit in the waiting rooms with women waiting to have abortions, trying to talk them out of it.

There were the "old lock and block" tactics, where protestors would chain themselves to the abortion clinic door to block women from entering the clinic.

However, those strategies don't work anymore.

At the beginning of the pro-life movement, people were trying to figure out how to stop abortion and what could be done, Scheidler said.

He lambasted any violence in the pro-life movement, such as someone killing an abortion doctor. He's also tried to talk to those extremist groups that call

themselves pro-life but use violence.

Urging people to exercise their right to protest outside abortion clinics, Scheidler said peaceful protests of prayer and sidewalk counseling to women are important.

People need to realize they make a difference when they stand outside a clinic and pray for the women who are going to abort their babies, he said.

He added that people who go to the clinics shouldn't think they aren't making a difference if they don't see any women change their mind.

Talking to former abortion clinic guards, Scheidler said he was told that three times more women left the clinic if he and others were outside. The protestors just might not have known because the women usually leave by back entrances.

During Scheidler's years in the movement, he has witnessed abortion doctors turn away from the industry and has seen many conversions.

The lawsuit caused some hesitancy in the pro-life movement, Scheidler said, leading to some of his talks being canceled by pro-life groups because they feared repercussions.

But with the new ruling, Scheidler said, there's no room for fear, and never really was because God always wins.

"We need to cast out fear," he said. "It is so effective when people are at the clinics. Women know what they are doing is wrong, and if they see a bunch of good people praying, even if they don't talk to them, it makes a difference."

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# Catholic business ethics discussed at St. Pius X

Social action can help transform workplace, said speaker

By **REV. MR. GERALD POTKAY**  
CORRESPONDENT  
GREENSBORO — Is there room in business for Catholic ethics? Dr. Bernard Offerman addressed this question in the "Business Behavior: A Catholic View of Business Ethics" seminar, presented at St. Pius X Church Feb. 23.

"As Catholics, we must be concerned," said Offerman. "We want to have an environment that supports who we are. This requires a good deal of teamwork and leadership qualities that cannot be abandoned or laid aside."

Offerman, a parishioner of St. Peter Church in Charlotte and former diocesan director of the Catholic Campaign for Human Development, taught management and labor relations at Cleveland State University in Ohio. At the same time, he served on the board of the Full Employment Action Council, the mayor's committee on Equal Employment Opportunity and as chair of the Commission of Catholic Community Action for the Diocese of Cleveland.

In order for morality and ethics to survive in business, said Offerman, everyone involved — from management to the lowest employee — must ask if their work enhances and supports their God-given dignity and

the sanctity and sacredness of their personalities.

"Is dignity sustained in the workplace with a living wage? ... Do those in my workplace climb the organizational ladder wrong by wrong?" posed Offerman to the group. "And how does one reconcile God's counter cultural gifts with a proper organizational response?"

"It is difficult to internalize what the values of success should mean as one goes up the ladder of success," he said.

Inequality and injustice are created by the unchecked use of market power and financial influence, said Offerman, both of which see growth as a means to eliminate competition.

"A competition that is necessary if the company is to truly dominate the market," he said. "Yet, the growth achieved leads to decisions on whether to lay off or forego profits."

Offerman told the story of flight attendants who made \$17,000 a year and were asked to take pay cuts so the airline could stay afloat; meanwhile, the airline's top executives made over \$30 million a year. After much haggling, the flight attendants finally got raises.

In years past, there was always loyalty between organizations and their employees, according to

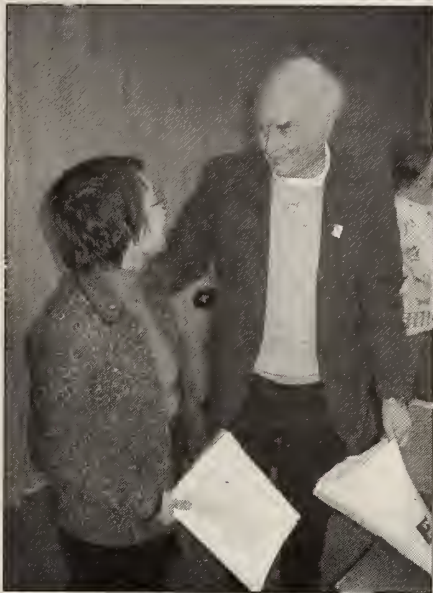


PHOTO BY REV. MR. GERALD POTKAY

**Dr. Bernard Offerman talks with Minhthu Lynagh, a St. Pius X parishioner, at the church's business ethics seminar Feb. 23.**

Offerman, but that loyalty is no longer there. He offered examples of unacceptable behavior on the part of some major local companies.

One company, instead of laying off employees, lowered their workforce through the process of attrition. On the other hand, another company kept hir-

ing until layoffs were necessary, then laid off many of the newly hired because of cost overruns.

"Labor has priority over capital," said Offerman. "There is a great difference between capital investment and the investment of years of life."

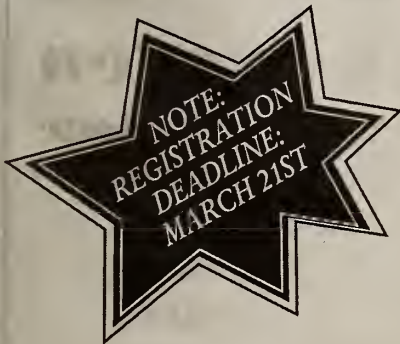
To lead a moral life, said Offerman, one must make the right ethical choices — even in business. Quoting from Bishop William G. Curlin, bishop emeritus, Offerman asked, "Are we American Catholics? Or are we Catholic Americans? In other words, do we adhere to a universal set of ethical and moral principles or do these principles arise from American culture and politics?"

"Therefore, our aim must lead us to minister to each other, even in our secular life," he said. "For only social action can make a transformation in the marketplace."

Sue Brusnahan, a St. Pius X parishioner, said, "(Dr. Offerman) got me thinking about the dynamics of my own workplace."

Alec Pratto, a certified public accountant for a local company, said, "This program helped explain the moral decisions faced every day in the corporate situation."

Contact Correspondent Rev. Mr. Gerald Potkay by calling (336) 427-8218 or e-mail [gpotkay@triad.rr.com](mailto:gpotkay@triad.rr.com).



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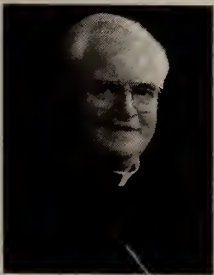
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## Book Review

# Book reveals migrants' physical, spiritual pilgrimage

REVIEWED BY AGOSTINO BONO  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

For Holy Cross Father Daniel G. Groody, poor Mexicans sneaking across the U.S. border in search of a better life are on a spiritual pilgrimage. In this pilgrimage, the Catholic Church must help them encounter God by putting them back in touch with their indigenous religious roots.

In "Border of Death, Valley of Life: An Immigrant Journey of Heart and Spirit," Father Groody argues that spiritual as well as physical cures are needed for people who risk death in an inhospitable desert, who undergo the psychological death of leaving their families and culture, and who experience alienation in a society often rejecting them in a language they do not understand.

The Catholic Church is further challenged because it must deal with largely unchurched people coming from a Catholic culture but whose spiritual roots are more often implanted in their Aztec and Mayan heritages.

This book is an effort to provide a framework for pastoral programs to meet the needs of clandestine Mexican immigrants steadily spreading across the United States in search of work. Taking an integral approach to evangelization, Father Groody sees the spiritual and the physical as two sides of the same human being.

Weaving together post-Vatican II theologies, anthropology, psychology, sociology, folklore and some common sense insights developed from his own experiences with immigrants, Father Groody sets a foundation which stresses building a communal as well as an individual spirituality.

The author is well-versed for his task. He is an assistant professor at the University of Notre Dame specializing in Latino theology. His book is based on his doctoral research with immigrants. This included sneaking across the border with immigrants and the infamous paid smugglers called "coyotes." Father Groody also traveled to the villages in Mexico which are the hometowns of the immigrants he interviewed to understand the land that they left behind but that still stays in their hearts.

He takes as his model the Valley Mission Program in Coachella, located

in the Southern California desert near the Mexican border. The program is built around four-day encounters which emphasize welcoming, fiestas, a return to indigenous spiritual symbols and a restoring of self-esteem.

Perhaps the best part of the book is the final chapter, in which the author draws the relationships between the story of Our Lady of Guadalupe and Aztec religiosity. He equates Tepeyac Hill where Mary appeared to St. Juan Diego, a poor Indian farmer, to the mystical Aztec "water mountains," sacred depositories of the divine spirit filled with life-giving energy and beauty. So the conversion of Juan Diego and — by

extension — of the Indian populations who came under Spanish colonial rule becomes not a break with the past but a continued flowering of what was already there.

Father Groody notes that Juan Diego, considered of little worth in the colonial society, is someone immigrants can easily identify with. The author goes even further. He notes the saint's difficulties in convincing the local bishop of his apparition and

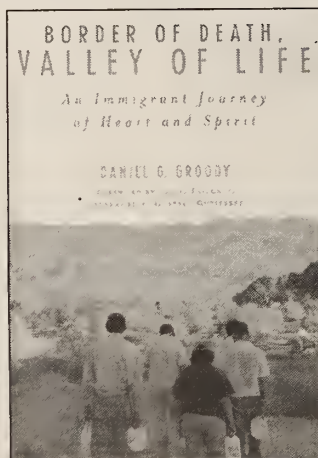
draws the lesson that God often chooses the poor for his divine messages, meaning that when the church reaches out to the poor it enriches itself.

One wishes that the author would have drawn more from his interviews with immigrants and retold more of their personal stories. While it quotes from immigrants, the book has an academic overlay making it geared more toward people wanting to know how to develop a program rather than toward readers wanting specific knowledge about the people needing to be served.

But it makes a good case that if the church does not reach out to these immigrants who are de facto changing the face of U.S. Catholicism they will vanish from church existence just as their footprints have been erased in the desert they crossed to come here.

*Bono is a CNS staff reporter who covers Hispanic and Latin American issues.*

"Border of Death, Valley of Life: An Immigrant Journey of Heart and Spirit," by Father Daniel G. Groody, CSC. Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, Inc. (Lanham, Md., 2002). 188 pp., \$24.95.



## Word to Life

Sunday Scripture  
Readings: March 9, 2003

March 9, First Sunday of Lent

### Cycle A Readings:

- 1) Genesis 9:8-15  
Psalm 25:4-9
- 2) 1 Peter 3:18-22
- 3) Gospel: Mark 1:12-15

By BOZENA CLOUTIER  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

The 500-mile trip from Mississippi to Texas was uneventful. The time behind the wheel provided an opportunity to think.

I was returning from a silent retreat where I had immersed myself in solitude and the inner life. Now in the car I had a chance to readjust to my normal routine. I was looking forward to a reunion with my husband Harold. He had finished chemotherapy, and his cancer seemed beaten or in remission. The tests and numbers continued to be good. We were thankful.

Eventually I pulled into our driveway and was surprised to see Harold outside the backdoor. He must have been waiting for the sound of the car. I went forward to embrace him, and as I did so I looked into his eyes, and my heart turned to ice within me. It is difficult to express what I saw there, but somehow I knew with utmost certainty that he was worse, that the cancer was back with a vengeance. I

said nothing to him, but within a few weeks the tests began to show troubling results.

How did I know? I have no rational answer, but it had something to do with the retreat. Maybe having focused on seeing the inner-world and listening to God in an intentional way, my vision was clearer than before. I don't really know the why of it, just the truth of it.

In the Gospel reading this Sunday, Mark speaks of Jesus coming back from a very long and arduous 40 days in the desert where he was tempted by Satan and ministered to by angels. From this prolonged retreat Jesus emerges with clear vision to announce the time of fulfillment and to call out, "Repent and believe in the gospel" (i.e. the good news). This is the beginning of his public ministry, and those first words of his come from a deep place of truth and conviction in him. They are his mission statement.

As Lent begins, we would do well to reflect on those words as if we never had heard them before.

### Question:

If you were asked to write your mission statement as a follower of Jesus, what would it be?

### Scripture to Illustrate:

"This is the time of fulfillment. The reign of God is at hand! Reform your lives and believe in the Gospel!" (Mark 1:15)

## Weekly Scripture

### Scripture for the week of March 9 - March 15

Sunday (First Sunday of Lent), Genesis 9:8-15, 1 Peter 3:18-22, Mark 1:12-15; Monday (Lenten Weekday), Leviticus 19:1-2, 11-18, Matthew 25:31-46; Tuesday (Lenten Weekday), Isaiah 55:10-11, Matthew 6:7-15; Wednesday (Lenten Weekday), Jonah 3:1-10, Luke 11:29-32; Thursday (Lenten Weekday), Esther C:12, 14-16, 23-25 or 4:17 (Esther's prayer), Matthew 7:7-12; Friday (Lenten Weekday), Ezekiel 18:21-28, Matthew 5:20-26; Saturday (Lenten Weekday), Deuteronomy 26:16-19, Matthew 5:43-48

### Scripture for the week of March 16 - March 22

Sunday (Second Sunday of Lent), Genesis 22:1-2, 9, 10-13, 15-18, Romans 8:31-34, Mark 9:2-10; Monday (St. Patrick), Daniel 9:4-10, Luke 6:36-38; Tuesday (Lenten Weekday), Isaiah 1:10, 16-20, Matthew 23:1-12; Wednesday (St. Joseph), 2 Samuel 7:4-5, 12-14, 16, Romans 4:13, 16-18, 22, Matthew 1:16, 18-21, 24; Thursday (Lenten Weekday), Jeremiah 17:5-10, Luke 16:19-31; Friday (Lenten Weekday), Genesis 37:3-4, 12-13, 17-28, Matthew 21:33-43, 45-46; Saturday (Lenten Weekday), Micah 7:14-15, 18-20, Luke 15:1-3, 11-32



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# ‘Cradle 2’ the trashcan

By GERRI PARE  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

NEW YORK — A Taiwanese cop and a street-smart thief form an unlikely alliance to recover stolen black diamonds in the brutal action flick, “Cradle 2 the Grave” (Warner Bros.). The opening “gangsta” rap song, with its vile language and sexist lyrics, sets the stage for all the nastiness to come.

The plot involves rapper DMX as Tony Fait, the leader of several determined thieves hired to break into a diamond exchange and secure a bag of black diamonds. Unbeknownst to them, a mysterious cop named Su (Jet Li) has arrived from Taiwan determined to locate the stolen black diamonds and return them to his country. Except that the diamonds are again stolen when Tony gives them to his nincompoop fence, Archie (Tom Arnold).

In a film full of bad guys, the top villain, Ling (Mark Dacascos), former traitorous partner of Su, kidnaps Tony’s 8-year-old daughter (Paige Hurd) and demands the black ice as ransom. Su wants revenge and Tony wants his daughter back so they team up to find the missing diamonds and outfox Ling. Mayhem and murders ensue.

As directed by Andrzej Bartkowiak, the movie is a noisy, chaotic tale where urban hip-hop street culture meets martial-arts fight fests to produce mindless entertainment that goes overboard on violence. The fact that Tony eagerly steals millions of dollars worth of jewels is also downplayed. After the heist, he is seen tucking in little daughter Vanessa and

saying a bedside prayer with her. His tenderness seems to suggest he’s really a good guy just trying to make a living, and once his daughter is snatched his determination to rescue her practically puts him in heroic territory. The movie also plays as very emotionally manipulative, with the young child in tears and in jeopardy as a plot device.

Jet Li’s physical skills are like the calm in a storm. With loud, bone-crunching sound effects dominating the soundtrack, scenes where his fast ducking and dodging outmaneuver his opponents are a visual standout. They form a welcome contrast to the drawn-out car chases and vehicles bursting through windows that pass for movie excitement. Viewers may also tire of DMX’s fits of fury when things don’t go his way and he can only express his anger by screaming four-letter words, which don’t include “darn” or “drat.”

Tom Arnold’s chattering fence, Archie, is used for comic relief but no one would believe that greedy, street-smart Tony would simply turn over the bag of priceless diamonds to this dope. A second lapse in logic occurs at the climax, when an Asian bad guy obsesses on harming the little girl instead of taking his chance to escape.

Another stab at comic subtext comes when Tony’s sexy colleague, Daria (Gabrielle Union), fails to distract a gay security guard, so their getaway driver (Anthony Anderson) does his best in salty exchanges to pretend he likes boys, too. Later, Daria again tries to distract a nightclub manager during a break-in, this time by stripping, but all she gets is a vicious slap in the kisser when he realizes what’s going down.

For all its headache-inducing sound and fury with vicious violence, “Cradle 2 the Grave” deserves to be buried, the sooner the better.

Due to excessive violence, a sexually suggestive scene and sexual references, much rough language, racist remarks and a few instances of profanity, the USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is O — morally offensive. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is R — restricted.

*Pare is director of the Office for Film & Broadcasting of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.*



CNS PHOTO FROM FIRST LOOK PICTURES

### ‘Heart’ skips to a comic beat

Josephine Butler stars in a scene from the dramatic comedy “Lawless Heart,” offbeat comic drama set in an English seaside town that chronicles the romantic mishaps of a restless married man, a gay man whose partner has just drowned, and the deceased’s childhood pal who returns for the funeral after an absence of eight years. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-IV — adults, with reservations. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is R — restricted.

### Films ‘Signs,’ ‘About a Boy’ among Christopher Awards winners

NEW YORK (CNS) — The movies “Signs,” “About a Boy” and “Antwone Fisher” were among those winning Christopher Awards in a Feb. 27 ceremony in New York.

On the television side, three programs focusing on racial issues were among the winners: CBS’ “The Rosa Parks Story,” PBS’ “The Rise and Fall of Jim Crow” and HBO’s “Murder on a Sunday Morning.”


In addition, 11 books out of a record 945 submitted for award consideration won in various categories for adults and young readers.

Mystery novelist Mary Higgins

Clark was named winner of The Christophers’ lifetime achievement award.

The Christophers base their awards on the organization’s Judeo-Christian tradition of service to God and humanity, as guided by their motto, the ancient Chinese proverb “It’s better to light one candle than to curse the darkness.”





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## The Pope Speaks

POPE JOHN PAUL II

### Pope opens Lenten season against backdrop of possible war on Iraq

By JOHN NORTON

CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — Beginning the church's penitential season of Lent against the backdrop of a possible new war on Iraq, Pope John Paul II urged Christians to pray and fast for peace in the world.

"I believe that when peace is at stake it is never too late for dialogue," he said at his weekly general audience March 5, Ash Wednesday.

"Thus I ask from all of you this prayer and this fast. May these be the concrete gestures of involvement on the part of those who believe in the mission of reminding the world that it is never too late for peace," he said.

The pope told an overflow crowd of pilgrims in the Vatican's audience hall that Christians beginning Lent "cannot but keep in mind the current international context, in which the threatening tensions of war are agitating."

"What is needed on the part of all is to consciously assume responsibility and make a common effort to avoid another dramatic conflict for humanity," he said.

The pope dedicated this year's Ash Wednesday, which in the Western church is traditionally a day of fasting and abstinence from meat, to special prayers and fasting for peace.

He told pilgrims that fasting was very valuable for Christian life and "a necessity of the spirit" in deepening a relationship with God.

"We must ask God above all for conversion of heart, in which is rooted every form of evil and every tendency toward sin; we must pray and fast for peaceful coexistence among peoples and nations," he said.

He said the renunciation of food should be accompanied by desire for interior purification, readiness to obey God's will and solidarity with all people, especially the poorest.

"A strong link exists between fasting and prayer. Prayer is placing oneself in listening to God, and fasting helps this openness of heart," he said.

"By conversion of heart, penance and solidarity, we will become true peacemakers, both in our families and the world," he said.

Officials at the Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue began their workday by reciting the rosary together. They used Bible passages to meditate on the sorrowful mysteries and recited special peace prayers using texts written by Blessed Pope John XXIII.

At the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace, officials gathered in the office for a Mass — with the distribution of ashes and special prayers for peace — celebrated by Archbishop Renato Martino, council president.

Calls for peace continued after the audience as four dozen members of Italian peace groups unfurled a huge rainbow banner in front of St. Peter's Square.

The small demonstration was one of several peace events March 5 in Rome designed to show public, nondenominational support for Pope John Paul's plea for peace.

Contributing to this story was Cindy Wooden.

### Unusual ministry brightens future for mothers in prison

If ever a ministry deserved attention and support, top of the list would have to be Hour Children. No, that is not a mistake. The word is "Hour," chosen specifically by Sister of St. Joseph Tesa Fitzgerald, the ministry's founder, because these are very special children. Their mothers are in prison, and their lives are defined by "hours, the hours they must wait to visit their mothers behind bars and the hours they wait to become a family again."

Their mothers are not violent criminals. All are in one of two medium security prisons serving sentences up to three years for drug offenses. "The daily hardship of these women is not seen by people," said Sister Fitzgerald. A former teacher, she became involved with prison work when she began meeting with incarcerated women who were devastated by being separated from their children and totally worried about the care given to them. In 1986, she opened her own mother's house to bring some of these children in for specific good care.

"Tragically, the number of women going to prison because of mandatory sentencing for drug offenses has risen dramatically, and the number of children needing a supportive living environment continues to grow each day," said Sister Fitzgerald. In fact, nationally, the number of women incarcerated for drug offenses has gone up by 888 percent since 1986. Most are nonviolent and have children. Foster care and related costs bring the annual expense of imprisoning a mother to \$58,000 a year.

With growing concern for the increasing numbers of children left temporarily motherless, Sister Fitzgerald took a bold step seven years ago. Joined by Sister Celia Gardia and Sister Ruth Costello, she launched Hour Children as "a place of reunification," keeping incarcerated mothers and their children together both during the imprisonment and after release, when most of these mothers, barred from city projects, could get no affordable housing and had no place to go. Rarely is a father in the picture.

"Every social concern is highlighted by the situation these mothers and children face," said Sister Fitzgerald, whose ministry has helped countless once-imprisoned

## The Bottom Line

ANTOINETTE BOSCO  
CNS COLUMNIST



mothers learn skills, find jobs and become independent.

What these three nuns have achieved and are accomplishing every day is beyond belief.

With no money, "depending on people's goodness," they began. Their first need was a residence for the children and mothers. The sisters looked for empty convents and found one in the Diocese of Brooklyn for an annual rental of \$20,000. They developed excellent working relationships with the probation department and child welfare services, and found encouraging support from parishes.

Now, seven years later, Hour Children, aided by a dedicated staff and a cadre of volunteers, includes five residential facilities, two day-care centers, a thrift shop furniture outlet, networking with job training and a teen program.

"Inside state prisons we run a family service center and a nursery program," said Sister Fitzgerald, who can now count hundreds of mothers and children doing well because of the help given to them by Hour Children. This remarkable nun admits honestly that Hour Children struggles to meet expenses and needs continual financial support. But she is sustained, she says, by "the blessing of family, faith and religious community."

And when things get tough, she has another blessing, "the wall of pictures of the children." As she says, when "you put a face on people," then you can love them.



## Working Matters

JOANITA M.  
NELLENBACH  
GUEST COLUMNIST

### Fantasy literature and the catechism

We've recently been assured that Harry Potter is acceptable ("Vatican OKs Harry Potter," Catholic News & Herald [CNH], Feb. 14).

I'd come across a number of articles and CNH had published a letter on Jan. 3 stating that Harry Potter is verboten because the Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) says that "all forms of divination should be rejected" (para. 2116); that "all practices of magic and sorcery by which one attempts to tame occult powers ... are gravely contrary to the virtue of religion" (para. 2117).

Using CCC to argue against Potter struck me as odd. I hadn't seen CCC used to argue against fairy tales, "Peter Pan," "The Wizard of Oz" or any other stories that included magic in their plot structures. I wondered: If I shouldn't read fantasy — because of what CCC says — what happens if I want to write fantasy? If reading it were a sin, would writing about it also be sinful?

I agree with CCC on forms and practices of divination and sorcery. However, although elements of magic appear in Potter and other fantasy works, the stories themselves are not forms of divination or practices of magic or sorcery. To say that any fantasy work is such a form would be like saying that a murder mystery is a form of crime or that a spy thriller is actual espionage.

And paragraphs 2116 and 2117 aren't the whole story. How about the section on "Morality of Human

Acts," paragraphs 1749-1761, which state that we can choose freely. The sources of morality are "the object chosen, ... the end in view or the intention" and "the circumstances (or consequences) of the action."

Some objects, CCC says, are always evil, regardless of intention or circumstances (1755-1756). To use a current situation: Good intention — gathering information to protect our country from terrorism. Good consequence — thousands of lives saved. However, torturing people (object) to get that information is always gravely wrong (2297-2298). The evil object negates the good intention and consequences.

Books are not good or evil in and of themselves. It's the choices we make out of what we read that are good or evil. After reading all the Potter books, I still don't intend to become a witch. If I wrote a fantasy book, my intention would be to tell a good story. It would be up to you to examine your intentions for reading the book. Of course, for both of us, that includes forming our consciences by a variety of means, including reading church and other documents.

Speaking of choices. Although the Potter books contain magic and sorcery, much of what Harry does is without the use of those devices. For instance, when he has the opportunity to use his magic wand to kill the man he believes murdered his parents, he decides not to kill that person.

In "The Chamber of Secrets," Harry chooses not to live in Slytherin House, the school group from which some dark-arts practitioners have come. Harry has Slytherin qualities: "Parseltongue (he can talk to snakes), resourcefulness, determination, a certain disregard for the rules." Still, he chooses Gryffindor House; he doesn't need magic to tell him that Slytherin isn't a good option.

"It's our choices, Harry, that show what we truly are, far more than our abilities," the headmaster tells him — an ironic statement in view of what I've said here and what you may think about it.

I'm not saying anyone should read fantasy literature, rather that there are many elements in decision-making, including the reasons for our choices.





Light One Candle

MSGR. JIM LISANTE  
GUEST COLUMNIST

Planting a garden for Lent  
Season's greetings!

True, this phrase is usually associated with Christmastime. In many ways, though, it is now, when the short days of winter melt into spring just as the somber days of Lent glide toward Easter, that we become most aware of the flow of time in nature and in our lives.

Maybe it's because this has been a fairly rough winter in much of the country, that so many of us seem to be longing for spring. That - and the great political, economic and social turbulence around us - prods us into more reflection and retrospection than any New Year's resolutions ever could. The very word for Lent is from the Old English for spring, and here in the northern hemisphere, the two seasons have become inextricably joined. By tradition, after all, those prolific Easter bunnies bring baskets full of colorful Easter eggs. And it's hard to imagine images more evocative of rebirth and renewal.

And just as spring warms us after winter and takes us into a bright, burgeoning future, Easter morning promises life, hope and eternity. Over the centuries, fasting, penance and prayer have been the hallmarks of those who use liturgical seasons for spiritual growth. I believe that they are just as needed today, but, by themselves, they are not enough.

What does the church say about  
conscientious objection to war?

*Q. The subject of conscientious objection to war came up at our study club in January. We don't remember hearing about the subject since the Vietnam War, but we recall the American bishops, or the church, approving religious reasons for opting out of the draft. Some people opposed the idea as too "radical." What was the position at that time? Is it the same today? (Ohio)*

A. At the present moment there is, of course, no draft in the United States, only volunteer forces. No one is forced against his or her will to enter military service. In that sense the situation is different today than in the 1960s.

If you're asking whether the position of the American Catholic bishops is that a good Catholic can be a conscientious objector to all war, or a specific war, the answer is the same as during the Vietnam era.

At that time the American hierarchy made clear that refusal to participate in a war's violence and killing can flow directly from traditional Catholic "religious training and belief." They supported this claim from a number of official sources, including positions taken by the entire Catholic Church at Vatican Council II.

Without in any way suggesting that conscientious objection is the only moral position a Catholic might assume, the bishops urged counseling facilities and employment assistance for such objectors who exercised their right of conscience to refuse participation in military action.

Just as we esteem those who conscientiously serve in the armed forces, they said, "so also we should regard conscientious objection and selective conscientious objection as positive indicators within the church of a sound moral awareness and respect for human life."

About 20 years ago the world Synod of Bishops in Rome addressed this delicate question. "It is absolutely necessary," they said, "that international con-

I believe we need to take time for ourselves - to think and to do. We need time to consider who we are and where we are in relation to God and His people, and in relation to ourselves as we were yesterday and as we want to be tomorrow. We need to stop and examine our consciences, a phrase that seems to have gone out of style, not only in connection with contrition and confession, but also as a matter of changing and growing and transforming ourselves. We need to open ourselves to God's grace and will, so that we can become that special person God intended all along. We need to nurture our beliefs, our hope and our love through acts of faith, hope and charity. We need God.

Teresa of Avila, a great saint who combined the mystical and the practical in her life, compared spiritual development with tending a garden. She wrote: "Beginners must realize that in order to give delight to the Lord they are starting to cultivate a garden on very barren soil, full of weeds. God pulls up weeds and plants good seed. ... And with the help of God we must work like good gardeners to get these plants to grow and take care to water them so that they don't wither but come to bud and flower. ... Then God will often come to take pleasure in this garden."

She continues, "Is it possible, Lord, for a soul which has received such blessings as You have bestowed on my soul, still to remain so hard and stubborn? Yes, I know it is possible, because I so frequently rebuff Your advances and reject your blessings."

"Teach me, Lord, to sing of Your mercies. Turn my soul into a garden, where the flowers dance in the gentle breeze, praising You with their beauty."

Before the Easter lily trumpets its majesty, the humble crocus breaks through the last of the snow. Celebrate them both. Celebrate our Creator and the life He shares with us each day of each season.

*For a free copy of the Christopher News Note, "The Spiritual Works of Mercy," write: The Christophers, 12 East 48th Street, New York, N.Y. 10017; or e-mail: mail@christophers.org.*

Question  
Corner

FATHER JOHN DIETZEN  
CNS COLUMNIST



flicts should not be settled by war but that other methods better befitting human nature should be found. Let a strategy of nonviolence be fostered also, and let conscientious objection be recognized and regulated by law in each nation."

Thus, the American Catholic position is not at all radical. It simply says in another way what our bishops insisted on in another pastoral letter of 1968. Mankind will keep using war and violence to solve its problems until enough young people simply refuse to participate in them.

A few excellent resources where one may find the Catholic Church's teachings concerning war and related questions like this would be Pope John XXIII's encyclical "Peace on Earth"; major statements of Vatican Council II on war, especially in the Constitution on the Church in the Modern World (No. 79); the address of Pope Paul VI to the United Nations in 1965; the 1968 pastoral letter "Human Life in Our Day" of the U.S. Catholic bishops, and their historic pastoral of 1983, the "Challenge of Peace"; several works of Pope John Paul II, including "The Gospel of Life," Nos. 27 and 70; and the Catechism of the Catholic Church, No. 2311.

Any good Catholic bookstore should be able to help you obtain them.

Economy of  
Faith

GLENMARY FATHER  
JOHN S. RAUSCH  
GUEST COLUMNIST



Pray for the military  
while opposing the war

My friend, Jan, drove 90 miles to the home office of Congressman Lucas to voice her opposition to the pending war against Iraq. She crowded into a small room with 13 people and sat around a speakerphone talking to her representative's policy analyst sitting 600 miles away in Washington.

The grassroots group, part of a nationally coordinated effort to lobby congress, brought a petition with 38 pages of signatures supporting further arms inspections and decrying the rush to war.

Besides her religious and moral convictions for opposing the war, Jan carried to the meeting her personal stake in this conflict: "My son agrees with what I'm doing today, but he can't express his opinion as a Marine deployed in Kuwait."

Jan represents a significant number of parents in Appalachia, rural areas and inner cities who see their sons and daughters lured into the military because of limited options.

Her son, Raymond, at age 21, down on his luck in debt with no job, one day impulsively called all the branches of the armed services. The Marines called him back first. He pledged a commitment of 4 years.

The son of another friend, Laura, mirrors a similar story. Her son never adjusted to school, but limped through to graduation. He really wanted technical training in a vocational school. Joining the National Guard at age 19, he told his mother the Guard fights forest fires and helps people in emergencies. It also opened the door for technical training with a \$4,000 educational grant after boot camp and an additional \$4,000 promised after completing his 6 years.

Laura, like Jan, opposes the war and actively demonstrates at the Bluegrass Army Depot in Richmond, Ky. When her son was recently called to active duty because of the crisis in Iraq, Laura simply lamented, "They bought him."

While people join the military services with mixed motives, the teaching of Vatican II reminds us: "All those who enter the military service in loyalty to their country should look upon themselves as the custodians of the security and freedom of their fellow countrymen; and where they carry out their duty properly, they are contributing to the maintenance of peace."

The Marines trained Raymond as a specialist in urban warfare. That means house-to-house fighting. He attends Mass regularly, but worries about the moral decisions he might face in combat. How about a 4-year-old boy approaching with a basket - shoot or risk a concealed bomb? The situation requires split second decision making. Children are used as shields and tricked into carrying bombs. They risk becoming victims of evil manipulation.

In a parallel way, good soldiers facing horrific, ethical dilemmas represent another level of evil manipulation, when forced to fight a morally questionable war.

The 13 people who visited Congressman Lucas's office each got a minute to speak. Jan concluded simply: "Before we send our sons and daughters to kill Iraqi sons and daughters, let every possibility for peace be exhausted."



# TV host entertains at St. Charles Borromeo

*Rosalind Moss speaks about conversion, living for Jesus*

By ELLEN NEERINCX SIGMON  
CORRESPONDENT

MORGANTON — Rosalind Moss first came to St. Charles Borromeo Church in October 2001 while visiting a friend. Last week, she came back to see a whole set of new friends.

Moss is a staff apologist at Catholic Answers, a non-profit organization in San Diego, Calif., dedicated to promoting the Catholic faith through the media. She travels around the world speaking at parishes and conferences. She also co-hosts "Household of Faith" and "Now That We're Catholic" on the Eternal Word Television Network (EWTN) and is a frequent guest on "Catholic Answers Live," a worldwide radio show broadcast by the EWTN Global Catholic Radio Network.

Moss gave evening talks at St. Charles Borromeo Feb. 23-25. Father Ken Whittington, pastor, said that having her at the church was "like welcoming a family member back."

Raised in a Jewish home, Moss became an Evangelical Protestant as an adult in 1976, against the wishes of her family.

"I am still not allowed back into some of their homes," she said. "If they only knew the heaven that God has given us on earth."

Moss became a Catholic in 1995. When she told her friend Nancy McCall, with whom she had attended the interdenominational Talbot Theological Seminary in California before converting, "it was a shock to her," said Moss, "but she (also) became a Catholic later." McCall is now a parishioner at St. Charles Borromeo.

Moss talked about the Jews in the early church and how difficult it was for them to become Christians. She said that Jews who were beginning to believe in Jesus looked at what was happening to the Christians — how they were being put out of the synagogue and ostracized by their families — and thought that the cost was too high.

"They were afraid to come in," said Moss.

She said the writer of the biblical Book of Hebrews knew this and wrote to these people, giving them examples of "saints from the Old Testament" such as Noah, Moses, Abraham and Sarah. Moss called the Book of Hebrews "God's Hall of Fame of Faith, full of people who ran the race and won."

The point of the book, she said, was to tell people, "Don't sit on the fence and don't go back. Christ is the fulfillment of the Old Testament."

Moss discussed some of the people listed in the Book of Hebrews during one of her talks and said to those in attendance, "What did they have that we don't have? Nothing, but they were willing to live out their faith at any cost."

"God looks at us," said Moss. "His son is in us. He will continue to chip away and chisel away at us until we are fully like him. Don't be afraid to live for him. We don't have to worry about what we don't have. We just need to use what we do have."

Moss gave several talks during the three evenings, including "Faith in the



PHOTO BY ELLEN N. SIGMON

**Rosalind Moss, staff apologist for Catholic Answers and co-host on EWTN, speaks about faith, family and Jesus at St. Charles Borromeo Feb. 23-25.**

Midst of Unbelief," "Christ in the Old Testament," "Mary: The New Eve and Mother of the Saints," "The Holy Spirit: Giver of Life" and "The Family: A Sacrament to the World."

The parish also held a brunch in Moss' honor Feb. 25, along with a poetry reading by parishioner and poet Leigh Mazaleski. One poem that Mazaleski read was entitled "Ladder to the Moon," which she said was inspired by Moss' last visit to the church and the talks that she gave at that time. Mazaleski is also a convert to Catholicism.

Moss said that the visit to St. Charles Borromeo was inspirational for her as well.

"This morning, I experienced the most beautiful liturgy I have ever experienced," she said on Sunday evening to those attending her talk. "You're in the right place."

More information about the organization Catholic Answers is available on the website [www.catholic.com](http://www.catholic.com)



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## VISIONARY, from page 1

crossed himself twice and returned to his pew.

Following the Mass, Dragicevic addressed the congregation through his interpreter. He told of his first experience seeing Mary.

"I ran home and did not tell anyone," he said. "I was full of fear. Could it be true? How is it possible? Was it really Our Lady?"

The next day, he and the other children returned to the hill. Mary was already on the hill and gestured to them to come forward.

"She placed her hands on our heads and said, 'Dear children, I am with you. I will protect you and I will lead you,'" Dragicevic said.

Although Dragicevic told of his early experiences of seeing Mary, his emphasis was on the messages she had given to the visionaries. There is a crisis in the world today, he said, and peace is needed in families, children and the church.

Dragicevic said that prayer and specifically praying for peace are crucial today. "We must pray for peace in our families." He described the "silent wars" which are destroying families: the need for love, abortion, families who do not pray together, marriage without marriage preparation classes.

Many of Mary's messages address peace and prayer. In one of her earliest messages she said, "Dear children! Without prayer there is no peace."

"If there is no peace in our hearts and family, there cannot be peace in the world," Dragicevic said. "Do not talk about peace, live it. Do not talk about prayer, live it."

Mary repeats her messages many times so that we will understand their importance. She is not tired, Dragicevic said. "She is like our own mothers."

He said Mary's seven most important messages are peace, love, conver-

sion, prayer of the heart, penance and fasting, strong faith and hope.

Gus Succop, pastor of Quail Hollow Presbyterian Church, visited Medjugorje in October 2002. "It is a crash course in what it means to be embraced by the Holy Family in two senses: Jesus, Mary and Joseph, and the Trinity," he said. "I had been a tourist spiritually, but I truly became a pilgrim."

"I hope that everyone received the seeds that we need to go out and spread the message of Medjugorje: to deepen our prayer life and spread the gospel message," said Tina Witt, facilitator of the evening's program.

Father Martin Schratz, parochial vicar of St. Thomas Aquinas, made his pilgrimage to Medjugorje in 1990. "It was exciting to relive it all (tonight)," he said. "I had a very powerful experience there. I went as a skeptic and came back a believer. Tonight was a renewal of that experience."

Rennie Falls, a high school senior and parishioner at St. Vincent de Paul Church, said "I came because I wanted to hear what Mary said and I want to live accordingly. I got a lot of peace out of it."

"Live with peace in your hearts ... and you will learn that peace is God's gift," Dragicevic said.

Dragicevic recalled Mary's message from Feb. 25, "Dear children! Also today I call you to pray and fast for peace. As I have already said and now repeat to you, little children, only with prayer and fasting can wars also be stopped."

"Peace is a precious gift from God. Seek, pray and you will receive it. Speak about peace and carry peace in your hearts. Nurture it like a flower which is in need of water, tenderness and light. Be those who carry peace to others. I am with you and intercede for all of you. Thank you for having responded to my call."

Contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans by calling (704) 370-3354 or e-mail [kaevans@charlottediocese.org](mailto:kaevans@charlottediocese.org).

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## TIMES, from page 1

and one still finds that 96 percent of priests are not abusers. The horror is doubled but the picture is not nearly as bleak as The Times and other media have hinted through the last year.

But The Times writer, Laurie Goodstein, proved remarkably ingenious in keeping the feeding frenzy alive. There is evidence in the data, she suggests, to support both those who blame the abuse problem on celibacy and those who blame it on the breakdown of sexual morality during the 1960s.

This is simply not so. The numbers prove nothing at all.

Most experts in sexual abuse of minors and children attribute it to a deep and incurable syndrome acquired early in life. Marriage won't cure it. An abuser who marries is a married abuser. Moreover, it is contemptuous toward women to suggest that a man can cure his attraction to minors simply by sleeping with a woman. The fact that most of the abusers were ordained in the 1960s can just as well be attributed to the fact that there were large ordination classes in those years.

Nonetheless, The Times writer ignores the clinical evidence about the personalities of abusers and uses the debate between the two sides to cry havoc and again let loose the furies of the talking heads who have pontificated about priests for the last 12 months. She thus lefty shifts the frame of her article from abusers to all priests.

Led by the Rev. Robert Silva of the National Federation of Priests Councils, the talking heads denounce sexual education in the seminaries. I will yield to no one in my contempt for what passed as a seminary education in those days — about sexuality and everything else. Yet the argument that blames the seminaries for sex abuse fails the test of the scholastic dictum, *qui nimis probat nihil probat*: she who proves too much, proves nothing.

If seminary training turned out hordes of sexual predators, then there should be a lot more than there are. Maybe a lot of us were sexually immature at the time of ordination — just as most young men are sexually immature at the time of marriage, and many remain so for the rest of their lives. Maybe we could have benefited from better sexual education — though I'm at a loss to what that would have been like. Indeed, what kind of sexual education will change the personality of someone with, in Dr. John Money's words, a "vandalized love map"?

But most of us — 98.2 percent if one credits The Times's numbers — are not sexual predators. Indeed, if the seminaries are responsible for sexual abuse, that proportion is almost a miracle of grace.

Citing the comments of resigned priests, The Times writer also asserts quite gratuitously that "healthy" priests began to "jump ship" in the 1960s and '70s. She really does not prove that assertion, but instead quotes the study conducted by Eugene Kennedy and Victor Heckler (whom she does not mention) of Loyola University Chicago as part of the 1970 research on the priest-

hood commissioned by the American bishops. Fifty-seven percent of priests, according to their report, were "psychologically underdeveloped."

But she apparently did not read the introduction to the report, in which Kennedy and Heckler say that priests were "ordinary," not very different from other men. Apparently, then, 57 percent of American males are psychologically underdeveloped. (A woman theologian remarked to me skeptically, "Is that all?")

One must also wonder whether it is a sign of "psychological development" for men who left the priesthood to proclaim themselves as "healthy" and those who stayed as "unhealthy"?

Moreover, the Loyola report cites no comparative statistics about psychological development of married men with whom priests might legitimately be compared. In another part of the report to bishops in 1970, a National Opinion Research Center team administered Everett Shostrom's Personality Orientation Inventory to priests and compared priests with norm groups available for that test. Priests compared favorably with men of the same age and educational attainment on maturity, self-actualization and the capacity for intimacy.

More recently in 1992, research with a similar design by the Rev. Thomas Nestor confirmed the NORC findings and found slightly higher scores on priests' capacity for intimacy. Since these data did not fit The Times' reporter's "frame" of a sick, immature, twisted priesthood, she did not bother to seek them out.

Nor did she cite data from the recent Los Angeles Times study of American priests, which showed that most priests are happy in the priesthood, most find it even better than they had expected, most would choose to be priests again, and most have no intention of leaving the priesthood.

As I will argue in my forthcoming book, "Priests in the Pressure Cooker," all the comparative evidence available suggests that, despite The New York Times, most priests are reasonably mature, happy men. They are not a crowd of cowering, craven, sexually frustrated, "unhealthy" males that the media have portrayed this past year. Priests have their faults and failings; in general they are miserable homilists, do not administer "user-friendly" parishes and still do not take the abuse crisis seriously, but the media have calumniated them.

I do not want to become a media basher (like most priests in the L.A. Times surveys). If it had not been for media pressure, the hierarchy would not have been forced to end their reassignments of abusive priests. No media outlet ever sent a known abuser back into a parish. Yet the sexual abuse crisis has become an occasion for Catholic-bashing and celibate-priest bashing, an old custom dating to the 19th century that is as American as cherry pie — with the addition these days that a few self-serving resigned priests join in the game.

If some African Americans are brutal rapists, it does not follow that all or most African Americans are. If some CEOs are crooks, it does not follow that all or most are. If some priests are creepy predators, it does not follow that all or most priests are.

The Times writer concludes her ar-

ticle with the gratuitous suggestion that abuse cases were down in the 1990s because bishops might still be covering up. She does not seem to realize that her article covers up the truth that most priests are reasonably healthy males who are happy in their work and are not lusting for little boys.

I also wonder why the two honest and intelligent articles on the subject by Peter Steinfelds, who works for The Times, appeared in Commonweal and The (London) Tablet, and not in The Times. Did The Times editors ban Catholics from reporting on the sexual abuse problem?

I conclude from this article that the good gray Times, under editor Howell

Raines, has left behind its historic position of edgy suspicion toward the church, crossed the border into hostility and ventured on to the stomping grounds of virulent anti-Catholicism.

Maria Monk lives!

*Father Greeley is professor of social sciences at the University of Chicago and the University of Arizona and research assistant at the National Opinion Research Center at the University of Chicago.*

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## Pope revises Vatican norms on clergy sex abuse, confession

By JERRY FILTEAU  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — Pope John Paul II has changed several Vatican norms to expedite the trial or laicization of priests who have sexually abused minors.

The expedited procedures can also be used to prosecute and, if warranted, laicize priests for committing certain particularly serious crimes against the sacraments.

The pope also refined Vatican norms concerning the crime of breaking the seal of confession.

Copies of the changes were distributed to more than 200 U.S. canon lawyers attending workshops in Washington this February on the church's legal rules and procedures for handling cases of priests accused of molesting minors. Catholic News Service obtained a copy Feb. 26.

The changes are revisions in the substantive and procedural norms enacted by the pope in 2001, giving the Vatican Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith direct jurisdiction over cases involving certain particularly serious crimes against morals and against the sacraments, including sexual abuse of a minor by a cleric.

As Vatican norms, they apply to such crimes anywhere they are committed. Their use is not restricted to the United States, as is the case with the special U.S. norms for dealing with clergy accused of sexual abuse of minors.

One addition to the Vatican norms says that in certain "grave and clear cases" of a priest committing one of the crimes in question, the doctrinal congregation can now dismiss the priest from the priesthood by decree, without a formal church trial.

For cases that go to trial, the congregation now has the power to dispense with some requirements for judges and other court officials. Under the original norms in 2001, only priests with doctorates in canon law could serve as judges, notaries, promoters of justice (prosecutors) or advocates (defense attorneys) in those criminal cases.

Now the congregation can make exceptions on a case-by-case basis. It can allow the appointment of a layperson or a deacon and the appointment of someone who has a canon law licentiate — one degree below a doctorate — and has "worked in ecclesiastical tribunals for a reasonable time."

Those exceptions could be especially important in the United States, where an increasing number of tribunal personnel are nuns, deacons or lay people and where the clergy sex abuse crisis of the past year has contributed to substantial popular sentiment against allowing only priests to serve as judges in church courts trying priests accused of such abuse.

In addition to the procedural changes in the norms, there was a substantive change in addressing the crime of breaking the seal of confession.

Since a 1988 church decree, any Catholic who makes a recording of a sacramental confession or divulges it through the media has been subject to automatic excommunication. A new norm added in February reserves judgment on those cases to the doctrinal congregation.

Another norm on breaking the seal of confession, in the 2001 version, reserved to the doctrinal congregation cases involving "the direct violation of the sacramental seal." It has been revised now to cover cases involving "the direct and indirect violation of the sacramental seal."

Most of the changes in the 2001 norms were approved by the pope Feb. 7. On Feb. 14 he approved one more change, excluding any appeal to the Apostolic Signature, the church's supreme court, against any administrative act of the doctrinal congregation in its dealings with any of the graver crimes listed in the norms. Under the new provision, a person's only recourse against such a decision is an appeal to the doctrinal congregation itself.

Among other crimes reserved to the doctrinal congregation in the 2001 norms are crimes against the Eucharist, giving absolution to an accomplice in sexual sins and soliciting a penitent to commit sexual sins.



# Living Word nun makes sewing business her ministry

By TERRY KOLB  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

ST. PAUL, Minn. — It's easy to tell that Living Word Sister Louise Bauer is serious about sewing.

Her home, where she runs her business, Louise's Alterations, has rooms lined with sewing machines, bins of thread, cups of pins and several pairs of scissors. There are neatly covered clothes on hangers and bags of yet-to-be-completed projects.

A wall-hanging in one room — "A day hemmed in prayer seldom unravels" — explains her work which she views as a ministry.

"When I'm sewing, I pray for people," she told The Catholic Spirit, archdiocesan newspaper of St. Paul and Minneapolis. "I tell customers that." Customers often tell her what is going on in their lives, sometimes indirectly suggesting prayer requests.

"How I meet people and am pleasant to them is part of my ministry," she said. "Also, people either don't know how or don't have the time to sew, so I help them with something they need. Older people can't see the needle, and sewing would be impossible for them. Also, I try to keep my prices a little lower."

As the name of the business attests, Sister Louise's work primarily involves alterations, but she said she finds great variety in her work. She recently shortened a wedding gown that required her to remove, then replace, seven yards of fabric from the bottom of the dress, by hand. She also has altered scuba diving shoes, dog sweaters, the tarp for a deer stand, and vestments, stoles, albs and altar cloths.

"When you love what you're doing, it really shows. I love sewing," she said.

Sister Louise said she discovered her work can be a ministry, particu-



CNS PHOTO BY DAVE HRBACEK, THE CATHOLIC SPIRIT

Sister Louise Bauer observes Mara Keys, 9, as she completes a sewing lesson at the Living Word sister's St. Paul, Minn., home, where her alterations business is also her ministry.

larly as she began teaching children. She offers summer sewing classes for boys and girls between 7 and 14.

She described the teaching part of her ministry as something she really enjoys. "It is a thrill to teach children," she said, because of their eagerness and willingness to learn. She recalled one student who was so enthusiastic he asked, "Mom, can I stay here all day long?"

Sister Louise, who grew up in New Ulm, learned to sew as a child at her mother's knee. She was one of eight children, all of whom learned various home arts, including sewing, canning, gardening and crafts.

"Mom had a treadle machine. She put a child on each knee," she said. The children on the knees bounced up and

down as their mother sewed. Older children sat on the floor and cut sewn fabric into strips so their mother could make rag rugs.

Sister Louise, who has a home economics degree from the College of St. Catherine in St. Paul, is one of five from her order living in Minneapolis-St. Paul.

She always has enjoyed homemaking, and prior to moving to the Twin Cities she served as a housekeeper — doing the sewing, mending, cooking, shopping and laundry — for Sisters of the Living Word who lived in community in another city.

## CAMPUS MINISTRY, from page 5

church is there for them."

Father DeAngelo, one of the two college campus ministers in the Triad area, has been involved with campus ministry since 1998.

"In any ministry, you're trying to create an opportunity for people to form relationships with Christ," said Father DeAngelo. "We help them connect with the parishes when they graduate, because the church is what their lives are about."

"Campus ministry is also bigger than bringing the church to the students; it brings the values and traditions of the church to the college campus," said McDermott.

Campus ministry not only reaches out to Catholics on campus, said McDermott, it helps shape the mission of higher education.

Father DeAngelo said some of his campus ministry students go to Our Lady of Mercy Church in Winston-Salem to work with Hispanic children. Fifteen students from Wake Forest University and Salem College spent their winter break serving in a Costa Rican mission; five students will spend their spring break working with the Franciscan Corps. Volunteers in Syracuse, N.Y.

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O LORD, I am your servant; I am your servant, the son of your handmaid; you have loosed my bonds. To you will I offer sacrifice of thanksgiving, and I will call upon the name of the LORD.

Psalm 116:16-17

# The Catholic

## NEWS & HERALD

World Day of Prayer calls for global peace

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MARCH 14, 2003

SERVING CATHOLICS IN WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA IN THE DIOCESE OF CHARLOTTE

VOLUME 12 No 25

### FIGHTING FOR LIFE

## Many meet for moratorium on executions

*Activists learn how to lobby legislators*

By REV. MR. GERALD POTKAY

CORRESPONDENT

GREENSBORO

North Carolinians are mobilizing against the death penalty.

The North Carolinians Against the Death Penalty (NCADP) held its statewide meeting at the Presbyterian Church of the Covenant March 8. The meeting gave activists a chance to meet and to help move a two-year moratorium on executions through the General Assembly.

"If you have never seen a legislator, we want to prepare you to see one and take one with you," said Ted Frazer to those in attendance.

Frazer, the NCADP moratorium legislative campaign coordinator and parishioner of St. Peter Church in Charlotte, welcomed the participants who came from all walks of life — religious, college students, relatives of those on death row, and others who lost loved ones on death row.

"I am here because I feel it is important to pass legislation against the death penalty in North Carolina," said Sister of St. Joseph Phyllis A. Tierney of St. Pius X Church in Greensboro.

Bill Vetter, a parishioner at St. Francis Church in Raleigh, came to learn the strategies and to find out what the current thoughts of the legislators

See MORATORIUM, page 8

### St. Michael Church: 100 years in the making



PHOTOS BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

Rev. Mr. Jack Weisenhorn, Abbot Placid Solari, Father Christopher Roux, Bishop William G. Curlin and Father Joseph Mulligan during the March 8 dedication ceremony of the new St. Michael Church in Gastonia.

## Parish celebrates new church

*'New memories to create and new history to write'*

By KEVIN E. MURRAY

ACTING EDITOR

GASTONIA — The gathering outside the church eagerly awaited the procession's arrival.

The procession of nearly 100 church staff, choir members and honored parishioners and guests soon approached. They included Bishop William G. Curlin, bishop emeritus, who arrived to cut the ribbon across the doors and officially dedicate the new St. Michael Church March 8.

"May this building be a house of salvation where Christians gather in fellow-

ship," said Bishop Curlin.

Concelebrating the Mass was Abbot Placid Solari, OSB, abbot of Belmont Abbey. The Benedictines were founders of the original St. Michael Church a century ago.

"This day begins the celebration of 100 years of St. Michael Catholic Church," said Father Joseph Mulligan, pastor, to the packed church. "There has been much labor of love that brings us to this moment of gratitude and appreciation."

"And now there are new memories to create and new

history to write," he said.

Also participating in the Mass were Father Jose Antonio Juya, coordinator of Hispanic ministry at St. Michael; Father Christopher Roux, parochial vicar of St. Mark Church in Huntersville; and Rev. Mr. Jack Weisenhorn, permanent deacon at St. Michael.

### A blending of old and new

The new paint smell still lingered as the procession and people filed inside the

See ST. MICHAEL, page 15

## RCIA welcomes adults into the Catholic faith

By KAREN A. EVANS

STAFF WRITER

CHARLOTTE — Monsignor Mauricio W. West, diocesan administrator, welcomed 84 catechumens and 237 candidates to the Catholic Church at St. Gabriel Church March 9. The Rite of Election at St. Gabriel was one of three that will take place in the Diocese of Charlotte this month.

This year's Rite of Election was held in both English and Spanish, to reach out to the increasing Spanish-speaking population of the diocese. The readings alternated between the two languages, and songs were sung in both Spanish and English.

Ideally, the Rite of Election is held once a year in a particular diocese. Due to the size of the Diocese of Charlotte, three separate ceremonies are held. Sunday's Rite of Election at St. Gabriel consisted of parishes from Charlotte and surrounding counties.

On March 15, catechumens and candidates from the eastern counties of the diocese will participate in the Rite of Election at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church in High Point. Parishes from the western counties will gather for the Rite of Election March 16 at St. Eugene Church in Asheville.

"I came (to the Catholic Church) looking for a place for myself, for something to identify with," said Jessica Graham, a catechumen from St. Ann Church. "Now, I belong to something bigger than myself."

The Rite of Christian Ini-

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### Dioceses told to have child protection programs in place by June 20

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Kathleen L. McChesney, executive director of the U.S. bishops' Office for Child and Youth Protection, has told U.S. dioceses they should have comprehensive "safe environment" programs for child protection in place by June 20. In a paper sent in late February to all dioceses and eparchies — dioceses of Eastern-rite Catholic churches — McChesney outlined the essential elements of such programs. They ranged from education programs for children to training, screening and written conduct codes for adults. The paper, which was made public March 7, is available on the Web at: [www.usccb.org/comm/envguide.htm](http://www.usccb.org/comm/envguide.htm). McChesney noted that the bishops mandated such programs in all dioceses in the "Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People" they adopted last year.

### Ash Wednesday services, bishops' statements focus on peace

WASHINGTON (CNS) — As Lent began March 5, Catholics across the country gathered for Masses, prayer services and outdoor vigils to heed Pope John Paul II's call for a day of fasting and prayer for peace. On the evening of Ash Wednesday, about 70 peace activists gathered for a prayer vigil for peace across from the White House. Participants from Pax Christi and other religious organizations sang and prayed, chanted against war and echoed the words of Pope John Paul, who described war as "always a defeat for humanity." They also passed around a bowl of ashes and blessed each other with them as a sign of following the Gospel. "We are a people of God and of faith, and it is important for us to do this," said Judith Kelly, a member of Pax Christi and a parishioner at St. Aloysius Church in Washington. She told The Catholic Standard, newspaper of the Washington Archdiocese, that she was taking part in the vigil because "the peace movement is not heard" and "to be out here is really just a witness of our faith."



CNS PHOTO BY JON L. HENDRICKS, NORTHWEST INDIANA CATHOLIC

### U.S. parishioner cradles Haitian orphan during solidarity mission

U.S. parishioner Carole Tkacz cradles Benoit at an orphanage in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, during a solidarity mission by a seven-member delegation from the Diocese of Gary, Ind., in late January. Haitian children are often abandoned because of birth defects or disease or because parents are unable to feed them. Benoit was found on a street near the Enfant Haitien Mon Frere orphanage, which is supported through donations from the Gary Diocese.

### Soldiers, families, chaplains preparing for deployment

CLARKSVILLE, Tenn. (CNS) — In the military town of Clarksville, business is booming — at least, temporarily — as soldiers stationed at Fort Campbell prepare to deploy. Boxes of nonperishable foods, personal-care items and other traveling accouterments have been flying off the shelves as soldiers pack to leave for the Middle East. On Feb. 6, all 20,000 soldiers of the 101st Airborne Division received orders to prepare for deployment. The total area population is just about 100,000. The staff and parishioners of Immaculate Conception Church in Clarksville are trying to address the spiritual impact of deployment. One-third of the parish's 2,500 families are in the military. "We have made pulpit announcements and put an article in our bulletin requesting volunteers for support groups to help

with financial advice, or other support such as helping with a Mother's Day Out program and anything else our soldiers' families might need," said Father Eric Fowlkes, pastor of Immaculate Conception.

### Government officials address boom in human trafficking worldwide

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Officials from the departments of State, Homeland Security, and Health and Human Services discussed international and domestic solutions to the boom in human trafficking worldwide at a March 5 forum sponsored by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Migration and Refugee Services. Each year, between 700,000 and 4 million people around the globe are forced into what Pope John Paul II has called "a shocking offense against human dignity," and what the State Department's

### Correction

Father Peter Fitzgibbons was misidentified in a photo in the March 7 issue.

Here is the correct photo.



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## Diocesan planner

### March

18 BELMONT — Are you Catholic, but not an active member of your church? Do you feel unwelcome, "on the edge," "in exile" in your own church? The Catholic Church of Mary, Queen of Apostles, 503 N. Main St., offers a ministry for our Catholic brothers and sisters who are inactive in their own church, and wish to find a safe place to return. Catholics Returning Home will take place on Tuesday evenings, March 18 and 25, April 1 and 8, 7-8:30 p.m., in the Church Family Center Library. Contact Dennis Teall-Fleming at [teallfleming@yahoo.com](mailto:teallfleming@yahoo.com) or (704) 868-9392 for details, to find your place in the church again, or just to talk about your situation. There are no strings attached — no fees, sign-ups or further obligations — so come be

among friends, in a safe place, in your own church.

18 CHARLOTTE — A support group meeting for caregivers of family and friends suffering memory loss will be held today from 1:30-3 p.m. at Sardis Presbyterian Church, 6100 Sardis Rd. With advanced notification, activities for the memory-impaired can be provided. For more information about the support group or the Shining Stars Adult Day Respite Program for the memory-impaired, which meets every Monday and Wednesday at St. Gabriel 10 a.m.-3 p.m. and every Tuesday and Thursday at Sardis Presbyterian Church from 10 a.m.-3 p.m., call Suzanne Bach at (704) 376-4135.

19 BELMONT — Cherubs Café by Holy Angels will host a Prayer and Share Breakfast each Wednesday of Lent at 7 a.m. This time offers patrons the opportunity to take a few moments from their busy schedules for a spiritual break for a light breakfast and a scriptural-based message.

19 GREENSBORO — Many of us want to do "something extra" during Lent. The Greensboro Council of Catholic Women will host their annual Lenten mini-retreat today and each Wednesday through April 9 at St. Benedict Church, 109 West Smith St. Mass will be at 10 a.m. followed by refreshments. For information, call Janet Law at (336) 288-6022.

19 HIGH POINT — Immaculate Heart of Mary Church begins its Lenten series "The Beatitudes: Gospel Attitudes for our Times" Wednesday evenings, March 19 and 26 and April 2 and 9. Each session begins at 7:30 p.m. in the Gathering Space of IHM, corner of Johnson St. and Skeet Club Rd. Sister Veronica Glover will address "Overview of Social Justice" tonight. For further information, please call (336) 869-7739.

20 CHARLOTTE — St. Gabriel Ministry Center will be hosting "Children and Grief" 7 p.m.-8:30 p.m. tonight. The workshop is designed to teach how children understand death at different ages and how children grieve. Learn what to



## Bishop Moreno of Tucson, Ariz., resigns; Bishop Kicanas succeeds him

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Pope John Paul II has accepted the resignation of Bishop Manuel D. Moreno as head of the Diocese of Tucson, Ariz. Bishop Gerald F. Kicanas, 61, named coadjutor bishop of Tucson on Oct. 30, 2001, automatically succeeds the 72-year-old Bishop Moreno. The resignation at earlier than the normal retirement age of 75 was accepted in line with a church law provision allowing bishops to step down for "illness or other serious reason," according to the March 7 announcement at the Vatican. A statement from the Tucson Diocese said Bishop Moreno had been experiencing health problems since 1997 because of "a noncancerous prostate-related condition" and an arthritic condition in his back, and had requested a coadjutor in December 2000 "because his health had so affected his ability to fulfill his responsibilities." Although "it had been Bishop Moreno's fervent hope to serve as bishop of Tucson until age 75," he decided to request retirement after his doctors told him late last year that he had developed Parkinson's disease and prostate cancer, the statement said.

### Multimedia ministry: Pope adds poetry to books, letters, prayer CDs

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — He's issued 13 encyclicals, preached on five continents, released a prayer CD and penned an autobiographical book. Now Pope John Paul II has added poetry to his multimedia ministry, with a book of verses on spiritual themes. "Roman Triptych" is already a best seller in his native Poland, and editions in English and several other languages are anticipated later this year. Like much of the pope's writing, the three poems are dense and deep, more suitable for contemplation than browsing. They probably will not provide snippets for inspirational greeting cards. But the verses highlight how much Pope John Paul's pontificate has changed the way popes get out their message. It's often forgotten in the modern age, but over the last several centuries Roman pontiffs were not very public figures, except for special liturgical dates. They communicated to the church and to the world mainly by papal bull and encyclical.

say and what not to say after a loss. We will also discuss how families can work together to heal after a loss. The facilitator will be Totty Lee of Hospice of Charlotte. For more information, call BJ at (704) 364-5432 ext. 212.

**20 HIGH POINT** — Immaculate Heart of Mary Church will present the musical production "Oliver!" March 20-23. Father Jack Kelly is directing the production, which is a fundraiser for the reduction of the debt on the new church. Performances begin at 7:30 p.m. on March 20-22 and at 3 p.m. on March 23 in the IHM School gym, located at the corner of Montlieu Ave. and N. Centennial St. For tickets and information, please contact Jacqui Miller at (336) 882-3596 or miller\_jacqui@hotmail.com.

**21 GREENSBORO** — Our Lady of Grace Church, 201 S. Chapman St., will present an evening of Taizé prayer tonight. The evening's program will begin at 6 p.m. with soup and bread dinner. Sr. Judith Marie Kubicki will give a presentation on Taizé at 7 p.m., followed by the



CNS PHOTO FROM REUTERS

**Castro welcomes religious order to new Havana convent**  
Cuban President Fidel Castro greets Mother Tekla Famigliette during the inauguration of a new Brigittine convent in Havana March 8. The community will start with eight nuns from Mexico, India and Poland. They came at the request of Castro following the 1998 visit by Pope John Paul II to Cuba.

### Quick thinking brings sixth-grader a Scouting honor for heroism

ST. LOUIS (CNS) — Trust in God and quick action helped young John Reese III save himself and his brother from tragedy, and eventually resulted in his meeting the president of the United States. Despite these extraordinary events, John, a sixth-grader at St. Roch School in St. Louis, remains in many ways an ordinary 12-year-old, summing up his recent trip to Washington as "pretty cool" and recounting moments with President Bush, Secretary of State Colin Powell and other government leaders. John was one of eight national delegates representing the Boy Scouts of America in a recent trip to Washington to present the annual Scout report to the president and speaker of the House, as

required by congressional charter. A second-class Scout in Troop 98 at St. Roch, John was chosen in part because he earned Scouting's Heroism Award for his life-saving actions two-and-a-half years ago.

### Former Philadelphia editor to direct Vatican English-language paper

PHILADELPHIA (CNS) — Father Paul S. Quinter, a former editor of The Catholic Standard & Times in Philadelphia, has been appointed director of the English-language edition of L'Osservatore Romano, the official newspaper of the Holy See. The appointment, made by the Vatican secretary of state, Cardinal Angelo Sodano, takes effect April 1. Father Quinter, 47, was editor of The Catholic Standard & Times, Philadelphia's archdiocesan newspaper, from 1991 to

dedicated to Mary, the Mother of God, remembering her continuous "yes" to God's call. To register, please call Kathy Murray at (704) 849-0398.

**22 GREENSBORO** — Our Lady of Grace Church, 205 W. Market St., will have a blood drive today 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. in the OLG cafeteria. This Lent consider giving a little bit of yourself by providing our community with this life-saving gift. Donors must be at least 17 years old, weight at least 110 pounds and be in good health. Call Maureen Cavanaugh, parish nurse, at (336) 274-6520 ext. 30 to schedule an appointment.

**23 HENDERSONVILLE** — The St. Francis of the Hills Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order will meet today 3-5 p.m. at Immaculate Conception Church, 208 7th Ave. West. Visitors and inquirers are welcome. For more information, call Helen Gillogly, SFO, at (828) 883-9645.

**24 NEWTON** — The Little Flowers Catholic Girls' Group is for all Catholic girls ages five and up. The group will be

2001. He is currently pastor of St. Monica Parish in South Philadelphia. "I'm honored and will certainly do my best to serve the church in this new work," Father Quinter said, "and I know it will be the memories and prayers of all of these wonderful people here at St. Monica's that will inspire and help me in the days and months ahead." The priest said he was "a bit overwhelmed by the news."

### Christening gown used by 63 people ties family, faith together

ST. LOUIS (CNS) — Barely five weeks old, Daniel Edward Blittschau already has made his mark in the world. The tiny infant recently became the 63rd person to wear his family's treasured heirloom, a christening gown made 90 years ago. Daniel, who dozed snuggled in the crook of his mother's arm, looked angelic in the long, snow-white dress, detailed in delicate eyelet handwork fit for a high altar cloth. Sewn in 1913 by Daniel's great-great-great-grandmother, Mary Von Bokel of Breese, Ill., the cotton garment includes a yoke and puff sleeves, scalloped edging and two petticoats, one a winter flannel to provide extra warmth. Both are trimmed in handmade lace. The contented child, son of Edward and Nancy Blittschau, was baptized Feb. 23 at his parents' parish, Seven Holy Founders in Affton.

### Pope says way to peace begins with purification, battle against evil

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The way to peace in the world begins with a personal purification of conscience and a battle with the "spirit of evil," Pope John Paul II said before beginning a weeklong Lenten retreat. The pope, speaking at a noon blessing March 9 at the Vatican, said his prayers during the retreat would be dedicated in a special way to peace in Iraq and the Holy Land. As he does every year, he canceled his regular schedule of meetings at the Vatican for the spiritual exercises. "In the current international context, a stronger need is felt to purify the conscience and convert the heart to true peace," the pope said. He said for Christians that process involves an "inner struggle" recalling Christ's spiritual battle with the devil when he went into the desert.

meeting at St. Joseph Church, 720 West 13th St., at 4 p.m. in the Holy Family Hall. For more details, call Debbie Vickers at (828) 495-2039.

**25 SWANNANOVA** — The Mother of Mercy Messengers will present "Tell All Souls About My Mercy!" tonight at St. Margaret Mary Church, 102 Andrew Pl., beginning with Mass at 6:30 p.m. MOMM, an outreach of the national Shrine of The Divine Mercy, will present a 90-minute program of prayer and reflection on the important message of Mercy given to the first saint of the new millennium, St. Maria Faustina. The program will take place from 7-9 p.m. For more information, call (828) 686-8833.

**26 GUILFORD COUNTY** — The Ancient Order of Hibernians Guilford County Division, the oldest and largest order of Irish Catholic men, is looking for more Irish Catholic men to join them for meetings, educational seminars and social events. Contact Michael Slane at (336) 665-9264 for time and location.



# Ministry hopes to welcome home Catholics

By KEVIN E. MURRAY  
ACTING EDITOR

BELMONT — One parish is opening its doors and calling Catholics home.

Beginning this March, Queen of the Apostles Church is again implementing its Catholics Returning Home ministry to welcome back inactive members of the faith.

"For the church, it's essential to evangelize and outreach, and to welcome people who were once a part of the church," said Dennis Teall-Fleming, faith formation director at Queen of the Apostles.

"It is a ministry of welcoming and listening, and one that will hopefully lead them to active ministry in the church," he said.

However, there are no strings attached, said Teall-Fleming, and no further obligations required. Catholics Returning Home is a "safe place" for those who want more information, have questions answered, to find their place in the church again, or just to talk about their situation.

For example, "People get mad at their priest, leave the church and don't come back," he said. "Twenty years later, it's awkward for them to return."

The ministry is similar to other programs — including Landings and Re-membering — utilized by many other parishes in the diocese. St. Gabriel Church in Charlotte recently completed its six-week Catholics Returning Home program.

"It went very well," said Sue Johnson, head of the evangelization commission at St. Gabriel. "We had about 11-12 people attend. Everyone was very receptive and they had a forum to come back and ask questions."

A few of the attendees are back attending church regularly, said Johnson.

While St. Gabriel has an exten-

sive adult education and forum to educated Catholics, Catholics Return Home is specifically geared for those who have been away for some time, said Johnson.

"It definitely fits a certain niche of people," she said.

With 15-20 million Catholics currently not active in the church, "This has been a big issue for the pope and the bishops in our country," said Teall-Fleming. "Evangelization starts with those in our church. I can't reach out to the rest of the community until I've reached out to those within my community."

Teall-Fleming said the church ran the ministry earlier in the fall to positive results. They had participants from as far away as Monroe and Concord, he said.

The new sessions at Queen of the Apostles will take place at the church 7-8:30 p.m. March 18 and 25 and April 1 and 8. Teall-Fleming said the church hopes to have the sessions three times a year.

St. Gabriel plans to hold new sessions in the fall. "We definitely plan to continue it, and even find ways to reach out to people outside of the classes," said Johnson.

"They're a part of our church family," said Teall-Fleming. "We want to help them be a part of this church community that needs them as much as it needs anybody."

For more information on Catholics Returning Home: At Queen of the Apostles, contact Dennis Teall-Fleming at (704) 868-9392; at St. Gabriel, contact Sue Johnson at (704) 333-8028.

Contact Acting Editor Kevin E. Murray by calling (704) 370-3334 or e-mail [kemurray@charlottediocese.org](mailto:kemurray@charlottediocese.org).

**"It is a ministry of welcoming and listening,"**

— Dennis Teall-Fleming

## Lifetime of commitment



COURTESY PHOTO

Members of the St. Martin De Porres Chapter of the Dominican Laity have established the first Dominican Laity Chapter in North Carolina. Pictured (from left) are Dominican Father Martin Iott, Brother Leo Almazon, Joan Burke, Gail Atkinson, Joe Kraft, Beverly Reid, Veronika Hagewood, Lettie Polite, Ralph Hagewood and Debra Price.

## Dominican Laity Chapter established in Asheville

ASHEVILLE — The St. Martin De Porres Chapter of the Dominican Laity recently announced the establishment of the first Dominican Laity Chapter in the state of North Carolina.

Six members of the chapter professed lifetime commitment to the spirituality of St. Dominic, founder of the Order of Preachers, at a profession Mass in the Basilica of St. Lawrence.

Mass was celebrated by Dominican Father Martin Iott of the De Porres Priority in Raleigh and provincial promoter of the Dominican Laity for the Southern Dominican Province, U.S.A.

Debra Price, one of the founders of

the local chapter, along with Beverly Reid, Lettie Polite, Joseph Kraft and Ralph and Veronika Hagewood made their final commitments after almost five years of intense prayer, study, apostolate and community — the four basic tenets for living the spirituality of St. Dominic.

Gail Atkinson made her temporary commitment of three years and Joan Burke made her second temporary commitment at the Mass.

The St. Martin De Porres Chapter meets the third Monday of every month at the Basilica of St. Lawrence at 7 p.m. For more information, contact Beverly Reid at (828) 253-6676.

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# World Day of Prayer calls for global peace

Shared stories reveal common beliefs

**By ELLEN NEERINCX SIGMON**  
**CORRESPONDENT**

**HICKORY** — When St. Aloysius Church parishioner Carole Marmorato and other members of the local Church Women United chapter plan the World Day of Prayer service each year, they try to make the experience as authentic as possible for the people who will attend.

Whenever they can, the women try to include people from the country from which the service originates. This is not always an easy thing to do.

"It takes a lot of prayer," said Marmorato.

This year, the planning committee found four women and a young girl from Lebanon living in the area to read the stories of the Christian women of Lebanon during the service at the Episcopal Church of the Ascension March 7.

The service's theme, "Holy Spirit, Fill Us," was written by women of Lebanon, a

country slowly recovering from a 17-year civil war. Lebanon, according to the service program, is "the only Arab country with a Christian head of state. All religious groups practice their rites in full freedom in Lebanon."

The writers included many references to images found in the biblical Song of Solomon, such as the cedars of Lebanon, to remind the people attending: "What God made is good, and what God intends is abundant life for everyone."

They also included painful stories of women recovering, along with their country, from the aftermath of war.

Church Women United, an ecumenical movement supporting women's projects internationally and in the United States, has over 1,200 local and state units working for peace and justice. The Hickory area chapter brings women together from more than 15 area churches, including St. Aloysius in Hickory and St.

Joseph Church in Newton. The group also plans a World Community Day service each year in November.

Eighty people attended the World Day of Prayer service with three Lebanese women — Audrey Gomez, Rima Serhal and Nada Roberts — and 12-year-old Chiara Roberts reading the stories. Henriette Turki, also Lebanese, recited the Lord's Prayer in Lebanese during the service.

Dr. Vincent Crist, music director at the Episcopal Church of the Ascension, provided the music, which included songs with verses in English and Arabic.

The Rev. Deborah McEachran, associate pastor for mission and outreach at First Presbyterian Church, was the guest speaker at the service. She alluded to the stories of the women of Lebanon in her talk, comparing them to stories of this country after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks and said Americans needed to pray with the women of Lebanon and work together for peace.

"I believe that our sisters in Lebanon are asking us to give of ourselves," said McEachran, "to show in the way that we live that the Holy Spirit continually fills us, enabling us to bear fruit."

She said although there are few Lebanese people in the community, "We do share our small corner of the world with people from a variety of places and a variety of backgrounds. We need to find ways to work together with them for the peace that is so critical to the future of our world at large."

McEachran added that there were many things individuals could do to promote peace in their own communities.

"We can come together for worship," she said. "We can learn more about other cultures. We can study another language. We can offer a smile and a hand to our neighbors instead of offering a cold shoulder."

"We can recognize the global nature of our community, celebrate it, and give thanks to God for a constant reminder that we are connected to people all over the world."

## A call to stewardship

**CHARLOTTE** — The Regional Stewardship Day Conference is being held in Charlotte Saturday, April 5.

This collaborative effort, hosted and sponsored by the Diocese of Charlotte as well as the dioceses of Charleston, Raleigh and Savannah and the Archdiocese of Atlanta, is an excellent opportunity for people interested in stewardship to interact and learn from individuals representing parishes from across the Southeast.

"We especially encourage parish ministry and commission leaders and those responsible for parish stewardship efforts to attend," said Barbara Gaddy, associate director of development for the Diocese of Charlotte.

Keynote speaker will be Bishop J. Kevin Boland, bishop of Savannah, speaking on "Theology of Stewardship."

Six breakout sessions, which will be offered twice during the day, include "One Parish's 13-Year Stewardship Journey," presented by Our Lady of the Assumption Church in Charlotte and "Stewardship Committees" by Jim Kelley, director of development for the Diocese of Charlotte.

Those invited to attend are: pastors; associates; deacons; school principals; directors of religious education; parish council members; stewardship committee members; youth ministers; diocesan, parish and school staff; and all others interested in embracing stewardship as a way of life.

Approximately 350 people attended last year's stewardship conference in Columbia, S.C.

This year's conference will be held at the Adams Mark Hotel from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The \$30 per person registration fee includes continental breakfast, conference materials, refreshment breaks and lunch. Deadline for registration is March 21. For more information, call Jim Kelley in the Office of Development at 704-370-3301 or e-mail jkkelley@charlottediocese.org.



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### Bishop Moreno of Tucson, Ariz., resigns; Bishop Kicanas succeeds him

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Pope John Paul II has accepted the resignation of Bishop Manuel D. Moreno as head of the Diocese of Tucson, Ariz. Bishop Gerald F. Kicanas, 61, named coadjutor bishop of Tucson on Oct. 30, 2001, automatically succeeds the 72-year-old Bishop Moreno. The resignation at earlier than the normal retirement age of 75 was accepted in line with a church law provision allowing bishops to step down for "illness or other serious reason," according to the March 7 announcement at the Vatican. A statement from the Tucson Diocese said Bishop Moreno had been experiencing health problems since 1997 because of "a non-cancerous prostate-related condition" and an arthritic condition in his back, and had requested a coadjutor in December 2000 "because his health had so affected his ability to fulfill his responsibilities." Although "it had been Bishop Moreno's fervent hope to serve as bishop of Tucson until age 75," he decided to request retirement after his doctors told him late last year that he had developed Parkinson's disease and prostate cancer, the statement said.

### Bishops' National Advisory Council adds new members for 2003

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Nineteen new members have been added to the National Advisory Council of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. The council, which has 63 lay and religious members, both men and women, reviews documentation and offers recommendations to the conference on matters of the church in the United States. The new members are: Auxiliary Bishop Gordon D. Bennett of Baltimore; Anh Quang Cao, New Orleans; Sandra Henry, Lexington, Ky.; David Mueckl, St. Louis; Beatrice Swoopes, Lenexa, Kan.; Eric Schiedermayer, Missoula, Mont.; Lita McBride, Seattle; Antonio Lujan, Las Cruces, N.M.; Brenda Moran, Hobbs, N.M.; Father William Hammer, Louisville, Ky.; Father Stephen Knox, DeKalb, Ill.; Father William Sheridan, Montclair, N.J.; Msgr. Richard Sniezyk, Springfield, Mass.; Daniel Otero, Cincinnati; Jesus Espinoza, Portland, Ore.; Thomas



COURTESY PHOTO

### Boy Scouts win awards

Eric Prange (left) and Christopher Prange (right) received their Ad Altare Dei ("to the greater glory of God") Boy Scout religious emblems Feb. 1, after two years of study by Father Mark Lawlor, pastor of St. Francis of Assisi Church in Jefferson.

Gerrets, Madison, Miss.; Deacon Guillermo Gomez, Hollis, N.Y.; Angeline Kinnaman, Rawlins, Wyo.; and Javier Munoz, Newark, N.J.

### Pope, cardinals set canonizations of 12 bishops, priests, religious

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope John Paul II and the cardinals who work at the Vatican gave final approval for the canonization of 12 bishops, priests and religious, including the founders of two large missionary orders. During the March 7 meeting for the vote on the sainthood causes, the pope announced that the new saints would be canonized in three separate ceremonies in May and October. He said the two missionary order founders — Blessed Daniele Comboni, 19th-century Italian missionary to Sudan and founder of the Comboni religious orders, and Blessed Arnold Janssen, 19th-century German founder of the Society of the Divine Word — would be canonized Oct. 5 at the Vatican. Blessed Father Joseph Freinamedetz, an Italian Divine Word

missionary who died in China in 1909, will be canonized with them. During a May 4 ceremony, which Vatican officials have said will be held in Spain, the pope will canonize five Spaniards: two priests, two founders of women's religious orders and a Discalced Carmelite nun. The others — a Polish bishop and three Polish and Italian nuns — will be proclaimed saints during a May 18 Mass at the Vatican.

### Multimedia ministry: Pope adds poetry to books, letters, prayer CDs

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — He's issued 13 encyclicals, preached on five continents, released a prayer CD and penned an autobiographical book. Now Pope John Paul II has added po-

etry to his multimedia ministry, with a book of verses on spiritual themes. "Roman Triptych" is already a best seller in his native Poland, and editions in English and several other languages are anticipated later this year. Like much of the pope's writing, the three poems are dense and deep, more suitable for contemplation than browsing. They probably will not provide snippets for inspirational greeting cards. But the verses highlight how much Pope John Paul's pontificate has changed the way popes get out their message. It's often forgotten in the modern age, but over the last several centuries Roman pontiffs were not very public figures, except for special liturgical dates. They communicated to the church and to the world mainly by papal bull and encyclical.

### Quick thinking brings sixth-grader a Scouting honor for heroism

ST. LOUIS (CNS) — Trust in God and quick action helped young John Reese III save himself and his brother from tragedy, and eventually resulted in his meeting the president of the United States. Despite these extraordinary events, John, a sixth-grader at St. Roch School in St. Louis, remains in many ways an ordinary 12-year-old, summing up his recent trip to Washington as "pretty cool" and recounting moments with President Bush, Secretary of State Colin Powell and other government leaders. John was one of eight national delegates representing the Boy Scouts of America in a recent trip to Washington to present the annual Scout report to the president and speaker of the House, as required by congressional charter. A second-class Scout in Troop 98 at St. Roch, John was chosen in part because he earned Scouting's Heroism Award for his life-saving actions two-and-a-half years ago.

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## Student prose pleads for peace



COURTESY PHOTO

Clockwise from left, Our Lady of Mercy School students are: second-graders Mackenzie LaBruzzo, Jessica Hynes and Kelly Lynch; third-grader Allyson Ryan and eighth-grader R.J. Read.

## The power of prayer

WINSTON-SALEM — Students at Our Lady of Mercy School have been writing down their prayers for peace. Below is a sampling:

### Jessica Hynes's Peace Prayer (second grade)

*Oh God, we are having bad times. Where there should be peace there is war. Where there should be joy, there is sadness. Oh great God, please help us to learn to love the way we should and help us to follow your ways.*

### R.J. Read's Prayer for World Peace (eighth grade)

*Beloved God, We pray to you to intervene in our world issues. We pray for the conflicts in Iraq and the rest of the Middle East. We pray for the issues over weapons in North Korea, and most importantly we pray for you to give wisdom to our world leaders. Amen*

### Mackenzie LaBruzzo's Prayer for Peace (second grade)

*Please help people to love each other as Jesus loved us. End hate and meanness between people near and far. Keep us from going to war and grant us peace. Amen*

### Kelly Lynch's Prayer (second grade)

*Dear Lord Jesus please send an angel to the president to help him make the right decision. Amen*

### Allyson Ryan's Prayer for Peace (third grade)

*Dear God, I believe in you, the Father of the Earth. You know we need peace. If you think of the ABCs, cross out the W, A and R. Those letters spell war and they spell raw. We don't want war or a raw, unhappy country. So, please God bring peace and bring everyone home from war.*

### The Kindergarten Prayer for Peace

*Pray  
Everyone  
Always  
Caring for  
Each other*

## Our Lady of Mercy Church receives grant award

WINSTON-SALEM — At Our Lady of Mercy Church, a top priority is providing more equitable resources for its Hispanic community, one of the fastest growing in the country.

With the award this spring of a cash grant from Oregon Catholic Press, that goal is within reach.

OCP awarded Our Lady of Mercy \$10,000 as part of the publishing company's parish grants program, now in its third year. The grants are given each year to help parishes build more cohesive and culturally inclusive liturgies.

The annual program awards \$125,000 to 60 parishes in all parts of the U.S. Franciscan Sister Kathy Ganiel, pastoral administrator at Our Lady of Mercy, was excited to hear that the parish would be receiving a little help from OCP. Despite the large Hispanic contingent, the parish has no Spanish hymnals or missals in the church.

"Within the last 10 years, the parish's population has gone from 37 people at our Spanish-speaking Mass to 550 every Sunday," said Sister Kathy.

The parish recently added another Spanish Mass. More than 150 people have been showing up for the new service.

"We are looking for more ways to involve all of our communities in the parish," said Sister Kathy, who says that Hispanics now make up from 30 to 50 percent of the congregation, evidence of the changing face of the church in the U.S.

"Part of our evangelization efforts is to make sure that there are equitable resources for everyone, and that different believers come to know each other through the faith," said Sister Kathy. The parish, which is staffed by Franciscan Conventual Friars, focuses on peacemaking, reconciliation and relationship building.

"We're excited to use the grant to make sure that this evangelization occurs," she added.

Efforts have been made to engage the larger community in outreach, including networking with Catholic Social Services, Hispanic Ministry for the Vicariate and services to people with AIDS/HIV, but the main priority for the parish right now is building community among its parishioners.

"We are very grateful to OCP for the grant," said Sister Kathy. "It is a gift that will enable us to spread the word of God."

Founded more than 75 years ago as the Catholic Truth Society in response to Ku Klux Klan activities in the state, Or-

egon Catholic Press publishes English- and Spanish-language worship resources, including missals and hymnals, music for liturgy and prayer and Pastoral Press books. OCP publishes Breaking Bread, Today's Missal—the most widely used missal program in the United States—and the Catholic Sentinel, statewide weekly newspaper and the oldest Catholic newspaper on the West Coast.

OCP is a self-supporting, not-for-profit publishing company organized exclusively for religious, charitable and educational purposes.

"Now that the parish grant program is in its third year, we're very pleased with the response and the positive impact it continues to have on parishes around the country," said John Limb, publisher at OCP.

"Even though we're a non-profit, we're a successful company, due to the support we've received from churches across the country. We love giving back to the communities that have helped us spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ."

Archbishop John Vlazny of Portland, president of the company's board strongly supported the parish grant idea from the beginning, hoping the program would help extend OCP's commitment of service and charity beyond Oregon's borders.

"For years, we have served the needs of parish communities through our music and liturgy publications, providing no-fee clinicians and other assistance," Limb said.

"The OCP parish grants program is a groundbreaking, concrete way of showing that we consider parishes not merely customers but true partners. This furthers our mission—it's why we were established back in the '20s."

The invitations to apply for the 2003 grants went out to every U.S. Catholic parish last spring, with a June 30, 2002 deadline to return them. More than 1,400 parishes responded. Applications for the 2004 grants will be mailed in March and may be submitted between April 30 and June 30, 2003, with recipients announced the following spring.

Parishes do not have to be subscribers to OCP worship programs in order to be considered, nor is a federal tax identification number required. All U.S. Catholic parishes are eligible to apply for participation in the parish grants program.

For more information on the OCP parish grants program, visit [www.ocp.org/grants](http://www.ocp.org/grants), or call 1-800-LITURGY (548-8749).

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## U.S. juvenile justice reform group seeks Vatican support

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — A U.S. juvenile justice reform group took its campaign to Pope John Paul II in late February, seeking Vatican condemnation of the prosecution of children as adults.

Led by the Rev. Thomas Masters, a Protestant pastor from Florida, the 34-member delegation included juvenile justice experts and parents of children on death row.

Rev. Masters and three of the parents briefly met the pope after the Feb. 26 general audience and handed him a letter asking for support.

Karen Kaneer, whose daughter was sentenced to life in a Florida prison without parole for a murder committed by an accomplice when the daughter was 15, said she showed the pope her daughter's first Communion picture.

"He looked at the picture and blessed it," she said, her voice breaking.

The group had a scheduled meeting with officials from the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace and also hoped to meet officials in the Vatican's Secretariat of State.

"I see the Vatican as a strong leader in the field of human rights through the years," said Rev. Masters, pastor of the New Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church in Riviera Beach, Fla.

Vincent Schiraldi, a delegation member and director of the Washington-based Justice Policy Institute, said about 80 juveniles are currently on death row in the United States.

## MORATORIUM, from page 1

are on the moratorium bill.

The proposed moratorium would call for the cessation of executions for two years while the state studies North Carolina's death penalty system. The proposal would not halt death penalty sentences or commute current death sentences.

### Working together

Lao Rubert, executive of the Durham-based Carolina Justice Policy Center, told the participants that both Republicans and conservative Democrats must be persuaded to support the moratorium.

"We will only win when we have enough votes to pass the bill," said Rubert. "If legislators don't hear from us, they don't know how we feel."

"People are forced to work together to get things passed," she said. "Our main purpose is to get a moratorium on the death penalty. Our job is to make sure we are ready for the vote, that the legislators are there for it."

NCADP, a coalition of anti-death penalty groups and individuals, was founded in the 1960s. Member organizations include: ACLU of NC; Amnesty International; Carolina Justice Policy Center; Center for Death Penalty Litigation; Common Sense Foundation; NAACP; NC Academy of Trial Lawyers; churches throughout North Carolina; and People of Faith Against the Death

Penalty.

"We're the main grassroots group in the state that's working to abolish the death penalty," said Stephen Dear, executive director of People of Faith Against the Death Penalty, one of the meeting's organizers.

PFADP was founded in 1994 with the purpose of educating and motivating faith communities to work toward abolishing the death penalty through non-violence.

### Death penalty myths

The seven myths used to support the death penalty were discussed during the meeting, along with facts and reasoning that demolished these myths.

The first myth is that the death penalty is a deterrent to murder. This is countered by data from 1980 and 1992 that show murder rates at 5.1 per 100,000 people in states that have abolished the death penalty compared to 9.1 per 100,000 in states that have retained the death penalty.

The second myth: the death penalty is reserved for the worst criminals who have committed the worst crimes. In actuality, the death penalty is used as a form of racism and classism that punishes people who kill others whom a particular society holds in high regard. This is an opinion that has been voiced by Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall in the 1980 *Godfrey vs. Georgia* case.

The third myth: the victims' families want the death penalty. On the contrary, not all families are for the death penalty, as expressed by family members of shooting victim William

Abner in Greenville, N.C. in 1974, and murder victim Betsy Parks of Fletcher, N.C.

While myth four indicates Americans favor the death penalty, polls actually show that when offered a range of sentencing options, the consistent preference is for imprisonment over execution.

The fifth myth relies on the Bible where it calls for "an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth." This is a verse that, in the Hebrew text, was a limitation on mass killings of clans out of vindication. Yet, in the New Testament, Jesus shows only the one without sin should support the death penalty and love should be the response to hatred and acts of violence.

The sixth myth proposes the death penalty offers a true form of justice. Those who use this argument are actually seeking revenge. True justice must be restorative and tempered with mercy, thus bringing healing to all concerned. Restorative justice focuses on preventive measures in society that bring intervention before the potential perpetrator commits crimes of violence.

Myth seven is the death penalty costs less than life in prison without parole. According to Dr. Philip Cook and Donna Swenson of Duke University, North Carolina spends approximately \$2.16 million per execution, which is \$165,000 higher than if the same person was to be sentenced to life in prison.

Contact Correspondent Rev. Mr. Gerald Potkay by calling (336) 427-8218 or e-mail [gpotkay@triad.rr.com](mailto:gpotkay@triad.rr.com).

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## FIGHTING FOR LIFE

# The right to give birth, the right to be born

*Birthright offers solutions to abortion*

By **DIANNE M.A. RIGGS**  
CORRESPONDENT

WINSTON-SALEM — "I really believe in my heart of hearts no woman would have an abortion without outside pressure," said Denise Zajicek, director of Birthright, a crisis pregnancy center.

Zajicek maintains that almost all of the women who come with abortion on their minds do so because of the sway of boyfriends, parents, sisters or others.

Through the gentle, non-judgmental listening skills and caring of Zajicek and 10 other volunteers, 19 children were born last year to women who walked through the center's doors with abortion foremost on their minds.

But not every woman who comes to the center is actually "abortion-minded."

According to Zajicek, who has served as director for six years, only about 10-15 percent of the women they see have "crisis pregnancies." Others come because the center offers

free pregnancy testing, community support and medical referrals.

Birthright's Winston-Salem office is actually one of over 500 internationally networked centers. Birthright was founded in 1968 — five years before the U.S. Supreme Court's Roe vs. Wade decision — by Catholic convert Louise Summerhill in Toronto, Ontario. It was the world's first crisis pregnancy center, said Zajicek.

According to Zajicek, the organization's philosophy states: "It is the right of every woman to give birth and the right of every child to be born."

Zajicek, a member of St. Leo the Great Church, and many of her volunteers are Catholic; however, Birthright, while overtly Christian, is an interdenominational organization.

"Evangelization is not our priority, but I wouldn't say we don't make mention of God," said Zajicek. "It has to do with the client."

She said the staff's job is to be nonjudgmental and invitational, and

to ask themselves: "How would God do this?"

Women of all ages, races and walks of life come to Birthright, said Zajicek. Most women are single, between 19 and 24 years old and are working or going to school.

"The perceived stereotype (unemployed, uneducated, welfare recipients) is not who we see — I'm not even sure they really exist," said Zajicek. "I see people who are trying to improve themselves and their lives."

Zajicek said her passion for Birthright is because "it is God's work," and people volunteer because they feel "called."

"You're here because you've said 'yes' to God," she said.

Zajicek always prays before meeting with a client, believing the decision about keeping the baby is "God's battle."

"It releases you a lot; you can't pat yourself on the back (if a baby is carried to term) and you can't beat yourself up if they (decide to) abort," she said. "You just love the woman."

For women who come to Birthright, the abortion and birth counseling could be the only service

provided. However, "Our main service," said Zajicek, "is what do you need; let us help you find it."

She emphasized their networking approach. For instance, if a woman needs baby furniture, clothes for a job interview or a place to live or just someone to talk with, Birthright counselors do their best to supply the need.

All women who carry their child to term are given a layette basket upon the baby's birth.

One day, Zajicek was delivering such a basket to a new mother with a baby about a week old. The woman thrust the child into Zajicek's arms and said, "You hold my beautiful new son, because he wouldn't be here without you."

"These are the kinds of things that encourage me that we are doing what God wants," said Zajicek.

For more information on Birthright, call (336) 774-0456.

Contact Correspondent Dianne M.A. Riggs by calling (828) 299-4411 or e-mail [mountainquixote@aol.com](mailto:mountainquixote@aol.com).

## Teacher honored for decades of outstanding service

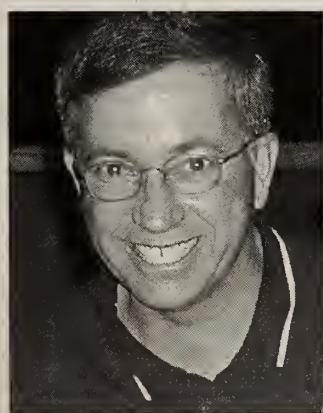
KERNERSVILLE — Dennis Allen, a member of the teaching, administrative and coaching staffs during his 29 years at Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School, was honored by a school community program Jan. 9.

Due to his wife's professional relocation to Charlottesville, Va., Allen resigned his position at the school. His last day of service was the conclusion of the school's fall semester.

Allen served the school as a teacher of physical education and a high-achieving coach of its soccer programs. At various times during his tenure, Allen also served as administrator — athletic director and dean of students — and a teacher of other subjects.

Allen was presented with a variety of gifts and citations for excellence in service from both the school's administration and its board. Students and teachers with whom he had served, as well as coaching staff from other schools were in attendance during the honor ceremony.

John Ceneviva, chair of the school



Dennis Allen

board's athletic subcommittee, announced that Allen would be the inaugural member of the school's Athletic Hall of Fame, a newly instituted program of recognition.

"(Allen) raised a standard to which all of us at Bishop must aspire," said George Repass, principal.

Repass also said Allen would be the commencement speaker for this school year, requiring Allen to return in June.

## The Lutheran-Catholic Covenant Committee



On Pentecost Sunday of 1991 the Diocese of Raleigh and the Diocese of Charlotte of the Roman Catholic Church and the North Carolina Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America entered into a covenant together.

The first point of the covenant is:

Therefore with confidence we will pray for each other as we celebrate the Eucharist in our respective communions and, in anticipation of the time when we will celebrate the Eucharist together, ask God to hasten our complete reconciliation. \*

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\* This covenant was reaffirmed in 1996 and 2001. The full text of the Covenant is available on line at <http://www.interpath.com/~mdoyle/lrccov.html>

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## Book Review

# Book reveals Protestant views of Mary

REVIEWED BY WAYNE A. HOLST  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

"The (Protestant) church in which I was raised had a curious attitude towards Mary, ... an odd mixture of hubris and bashfulness," explains Kathleen Norris (author of "Dakota," "The Cloister Walk" and "Meditations on Mary") in the foreword to "Blessed One."

Norris writes, "We dragged Mary out at Christmas ... and placed her at center stage. (But) we effectively denied Mary her place in Christian tradition and were disdainful of the reverence displayed for her, public and emotional, by many millions of Catholics around the world. ... Mary was mysterious, and therefore for Catholics; our religion was more proper, more masculine. Anything we couldn't explain — or explain away — was either ignored or given short shrift."

Editors Beverly Roberts Gaventa and Cynthia L. Rigby, both of whom contribute to this collection of 11 essays, teach at Princeton and Austin Theological Seminaries, respectively. They present a revisionist perspective of Mary, a refreshing portrait that should inform and excite modern Catholic and non-Catholic readers alike.

Why the long-standing Protestant suspicion of Mary? Rosemary Radford Ruether, herself a Catholic theologian who has taught at a Protestant seminary, believes that three things fed a decrease in Marian devotion: the Reformation idea of the Bible as fundamental source of God's Word; Martin Luther's radical definition of justification by faith alone; and the exaltation of Christian marriage along with the rejection of the sanctity of virginity in the Protestant tradition.

For Luther and his various followers, there was simply no biblical basis for the proliferation of stories and the development of Marian doctrine. No saint, even the Mother of God, mediated grace. That role was for Christ alone. Luther praised marriage for lay and clergy persons alike and declared that procreation and sex did not defile women. Neither did abstinence from sex make Mary special.

The result was that Protestants no longer exalted Mary. They praised instead the virtues of submissive wives

and selflessly loving mothers. The modern feminist movement which has influenced people in all the churches, portrayed Mary as a holdover of medieval Catholic piety who fared no better in Protestant circles. A number of these reflections clearly attempt to present a post-feminist model of Mary — respectful of heritage, but serving as a modern corrective to the excesses or negligence of both Catholic and Protestant traditions.

The editors believe that the ecumenical climate is now such that the time has come to join together as Christians in the blessing of Mary. The absence of Mary not only cuts Protestants off from Catholic and Orthodox Christians, they say; it cuts us off from our own tradition. We have neither blessed Mary nor allowed her to bless us.

A variety of Protestant theological and cultural streams are represented here. Understandably, many of the contributors start with biblical texts, while others use images of Mary drawn from tradition or contemporary life. The book is divided into three parts. "Encountering Mary" begins the discussion. "Living Mary" deals with ways in which Mary's story is encountered in Scripture and contemporary life. "Bearing Mary," the third section,

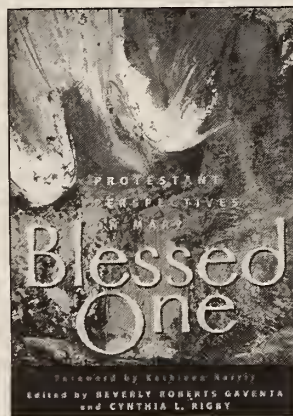
deals with what she teaches us about God.

Protestant readers will be enlightened by the Mary of Christian tradition. Catholic readers may grow newly aware of the Mary of the Scriptures. Both Christian streams will be helped to stretch and grow in their understanding of Mary and her contemporary meaning.

Timeless Mary, the Theotokos (God-bearer), towers above and beyond us all. Her image and message can be ever-new and meaningful for those who seek to deepen and broaden their awareness and understanding of her.

*Holst writes from Alberta where he taught religion and culture at the University of Calgary.*

"Blessed One: Protestant Perspectives on Mary," edited by Beverly Roberts Gaventa and Cynthia L. Rigby. Westminster/John Knox Press (Louisville, Ky., 2002). 158 pp., \$19.95.



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## Word to Life

Sunday Scripture Readings:  
March 16, 2003

March 16, Second Sunday of Lent

### Cycle B Readings:

- 1) Genesis 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18, Psalm 116:10, 15-19
- 2) Romans 8:31b-34
- 3) Gospel: Mark 9:2-10

By JEAN DENTON  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

Yesterday my husband and I were at a dinner with mostly people we didn't know, so we were pleased when a group of three joined us at our table.

Donna, a retired school teacher and lifetime resident of our city, introduced herself and her companions: Thuyen, a 29-year-old recent immigrant from Vietnam, and Thuyen's elderly father, Dong, who is in the country on an extended visit.

With our every question their unfolding story became more interesting.

Thuyen is living with Donna. That's because Thuyen's brother, Huang, is Donna's son. She and her husband adopted Huang some 25 years ago when he came to the United States as a 13-year-old refugee from South Vietnam. He was frightened and didn't want to leave his family, but his father was in a "re-education camp" for having aided U.S. soldiers during the war, and Huang's mother paid some-

one to get the boy safely out of the country so he would have a chance for a better life.

As Donna told the story I thought of the mother's heartbreaking sacrifice for her son's sake. Donna's family, already having a daughter and son, also made some sacrifices in their decision to adopt Huang. But the rest of their story is all blessings.

Huang has a successful career and has been helping to support his family in Vietnam for many years. Donna's eyes sparkle with a grandmother's pride as she describes Huang's wife and "two gorgeous children." Now, her family still grows as Thuyen calls her "Mom." Donna laughs, "Dong calls me 'Mom,' too!"

Abraham's story in today's reading is the story of ultimate sacrifice — giving his son over to God. His selfless act brought abundant blessings and life for his son.

In the Gospel, God presents his own son as a gift with the plea, "Listen to him." The people did not listen, but were blessed nevertheless when Jesus gave up his life. The blessing was in the act of sacrifice. That is the way of our God. That is the life of Jesus the Christ. The love in sacrifice begets transformation and new life.

### Questions:

What is the greatest sacrifice you have made for God? How were you blessed by it?

## Weekly Scripture

### Scripture for the week of March 16 - March 22

Sunday (Second Sunday of Lent), Genesis 22:1-2, 9, 10-13, 15-18, Romans 8:31-34, Mark 9:2-10; Monday (St. Patrick), Daniel 9:4-10, Luke 6:36-38; Tuesday (Lenten Weekday), Isaiah 1:10, 16-20, Matthew 23:1-12; Wednesday (St. Joseph), 2 Samuel 7:4-5, 12-14, 16, Romans 4:13, 16-18, 22, Matthew 1:16, 18-21, 24; Thursday (Lenten Weekday), Jeremiah 17:5-10, Luke 16:19-31; Friday (Lenten Weekday), Genesis 37:3-4, 12-13, 17-28, Matthew 21:33-43, 45-46; Saturday (Lenten Weekday), Micah 7:14-15, 18-20, Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

### Scripture for the week of March 23 - March 29

Sunday (Third Sunday of Lent), Exodus 20:1-17, 1 Corinthians 1:22-25, John 2:13-25; Monday (Lenten Weekday), 2 Kings 5:1-15, Luke 4:24-30; Tuesday (Annunciation of the Lord), Isaiah 7:10-14; 8:10, Hebrews 10:4-10, Luke 1:26-38; Wednesday (Lenten Weekday), Deuteronomy 4:1, 5-9, Matthew 5:17-19; Thursday (Lenten Weekday), Jeremiah 7:23-28, Luke 11:14-23; Friday (Lenten Weekday), Hosea 14:2-10, Mark 12:28-34; Saturday (Lenten Weekday), Hosea 6:1-6, Luke 18:9-14

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# 'Agent Cody Banks' should seek early retirement

**By GERRI PARE**  
**CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE**

NEW YORK — A teen-ager who can't talk to girls but is CIA-trained is charged with saving the world in "Agent Cody Banks" (MGM).

It's quickly apparent that 15-year-old Cody (Frankie Muniz) is no ordinary kid. When a toddler starts a car careening downhill, Cody saves the tyke with only a skateboard and his amazing agility. Cody's limbs may be loose and limber, but his tongue is taut and tied whenever he tries to speak to the opposite sex.

As luck would have it, his first assignment after secret training as a CIA recruit at what his folks thought was summer camp is to befriend pretty Natalie (Hilary Duff). It seems her brilliant engineer father (Martin Donovan) is perfecting "nanobots" — microscopic robots — unaware his employer, the evil Brinkman (Ian McShane, looking almost robotic himself) plans to rule the world with these miniminions. You instantly know Brinkman's a baddie since his hulking sidekick (Arnold Vosloo) sports a wicked scar across his throat and an unblinking, cloudy eye.

Serving as Cody's agency mentor is co-star Angie Harmon, described in the film's press notes as "the unbelievably hot Agent Ronica Miles." Unbelievable is the operative word here; how many CIA agents on duty dress in cleavage-revealing, skin-tight outfits and five-inch stiletto heels? It's all the more obvious that this is a movie geared to young boys' fantasies when Cody is equipped with all kinds of cool gadgets with specialized functions and a super red sports car. Even his shoes allow him to walk up walls and across ceilings, a handy talent when spying on evildoers from overhead locations.

Unfortunately just when Natalie

warms up to Cody, Brinkman and his toadie realize Cody must be a junior agent so his cover is blown. The CIA shuts him down but our hero springs back into action when the dastardly duo kidnap Natalie in order to force her father to put the finishing touches on the powerful nanobots. Soon Cody and Ronica have penetrated a snowy mountaintop hideaway lab where Natalie has been stashed and the robots are about to begin their assault on the world.

As directed by Harald Zwart, the young actors, especially Muniz and Duff, are just fine, portraying appealing, sweet-natured characters. It's the adult performers who are uniformly dreadful thanks to a lame script that can't scratch up better than cardboard, cliched characters. Cody's parents might as well be puppets, so clueless are they, not to mention the ridiculous Asian stereotype offered as the driver's ed teacher. Clearly characterization received almost no consideration in a film more interested in car chases, stunts and martial arts confrontations. Although the concluding violence in the lab is the stuff of fantasy, it's still a bit nasty.

"Agent Cody Banks" wants to be the new "Spy Kids"-meets-James-Bond franchise but it needs all the fans of Muniz's "Malcolm in the Middle" and Duff's "Lizzie McGuire" to keep it chugging along at the box office.

Due to frequent stylized violence, mild sexual innuendo and some rude humor, the USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-II — adults and adolescents. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG — parental guidance suggested.

*Pare is director of the Office for Film & Broadcasting of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.*



CNS PHOTO FROM BUENA VISTA PICTURES

### Don't bring down this 'House'

Steve Martin and Queen Latifah star in a scene from the comedy film "Bringing Down the House," a passable comedy in which a dull tax attorney (Martin) mistakenly gets involved with a boisterous escaped con (Latifah) who coaches him on how to win back his estranged wife. The film milks exaggerated racial stereotypes for occasional laughs but goes to extremes with an unnecessarily vicious catfight. Some comically intended violence, sexual situations and crass references, brief recreational drug use and an instance of profanity. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-III — adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13 — parents are strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.

### Movie Capsules

**NEW YORK (CNS)** — *The following is a capsule review of a movie recently reviewed by the Office for Film & Broadcasting of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.*

**"The Safety of Objects" (IFC)**

Sensitive but wrongheaded drama explores the characters (including Dermot Mulroney, Patricia Clarkson and Mary Kay Place) in four neighboring households who struggle to resolve different age-related problems. Writer-director Rose Troche creates several realistic, three-dimensional characters but the choice taken by the mother

(Glenn Close) of a comatose son makes a serious crime appear justifiable. Positive depiction of euthanasia, sexual situations with fleeting nudity, momentary violence and sporadic rough language. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is O — morally offensive. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is R — restricted.



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## The Pope Speaks

POPE JOHN PAUL II

*Editor's Note: Because Pope John Paul II is on his Lenten retreat, there was no general audience at the Vatican this week.*

### Pope encourages Catholic young people to pray rosary in public

By JOHN NORTON

CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — Pope John Paul II encouraged Catholic young people to pray the rosary in public without shame, saying Mary would help them reach the true happiness offered only by Christ.

"Humanity has a decisive need for the witness of free and courageous young people who dare to go against the current and proclaim with force and enthusiasm their own faith in God, lord and savior," he said in a message for World Youth Day 2003.

"Don't be ashamed to recite the rosary alone, while going to school, to university or to work, along the street and on public transportation," the pope said.

"Get into the habit of reciting it among yourselves, in your groups, movements and associations; don't hesitate to suggest its recitation at home to your parents and brothers and sisters, because it revives and strengthens the bonds between family members," he said.

The annual message to youth, which came during a year of the rosary proclaimed by the pope, was released March 11 in Italian only at the Vatican.

World Youth Day 2003 will be celebrated in most dioceses April 13, Palm Sunday. This year, the U.S. observance of World Youth Day is Oct. 25-26.

"Following Mary's example," the pope said in the message, "you will be able to give (Christ) your unconditional 'yes.' There won't be any room in your existence for egoism and laziness."

He said Christ's dying words on the cross to the youthful Apostle John, "Behold your mother," made Mary the mother of all humanity. The pope encouraged young people to turn to Mary in difficult times to feel the motherly comfort of her tenderness.

"I have always experienced in my life the loving and efficacious presence of the mother of the Lord," said the pope, whose papal motto "Totus Tuus" ("Entirely Yours") is addressed to Mary.

"Mary accompanies me every day in the fulfillment of my mission as successor of Peter," he said.

The 82-year-old pontiff looked forward to the next international celebration of World Youth Day in 2005 in Cologne, Germany, telling young people that "the road is still long but the two years that separate us from that appointment can serve for intense preparation."

He said he had chosen "We want to see Jesus" as the theme for World Youth Day 2004 and "We have come to adore him" as the theme for 2005.

"In this time that is threatened by violence, hatred and war, may you witness that (Christ) is the only one who can give true peace to the human heart, to families and to the earth's peoples," he said.

"Commit yourselves to looking for and promoting peace, justice and fraternity. And don't forget the words of the Gospel: 'Blessed are the peacemakers, because they shall be called children of God,'" the pope said.

## Motherhood

Many readers have sent me letters in the 25-plus years I have been writing this column, and I cherish them as gems received from friends.

I hold one now that I call a surprising and wonderful gift sent to me before Christmas by Rosemary Foley of Worcester, Mass. She writes that she has followed my column in the Catholic Free Press for many years and recently came across one she had kept. I wrote it in the mid '70s and it was titled "When the First Child Leaves Home."

I reread it with smiles and tears.

It was a story of a very special family reunion I had planned as a going away party for my son John, who was moving West and wanted to settle in the "wide, open spaces." Foley wrote: "Your words have taken on new meaning for me as my children have ventured out as young men and women. Perhaps you may choose to reprint this column, since for me and, I would say, many mothers, it was one of your finest."

The years fell away as I reread the column, where I had quoted the lines from "The Prophet," by Khalil Gibran: "Your children are not your children. They are the sons and daughters of life's longing for itself. Though they come from you, they do not belong to you, and where they go, you may not. For they live in the house of tomorrow, which you can never enter."

"That's the plan of life," I wrote, "and it is as it should be. But while I accept that with my head, why is the sense of empty so severe in my body? Is it because John is the first to break away so clearly? Will it be the same with the others? And what about the last, what will I feel when Peter, still only 11, leaves for his house of tomorrow?"

"Maybe that's when I'll write the book I always wanted to write, titled 'Motherhood is Becoming.' It will be the bottom line of what I've learned — that motherhood isn't bestowed on us and we don't earn the title by giving birth. It is a title we earn, little by little, event by event, as we face each new problem,

## The Bottom Line

ANTOINETTE BOSCO  
CNS COLUMNIST



blast through each barrier, savor each triumph and deal with our own growth side by side our children's growth. Motherhood? It's a condition of life, with no set job description, for step by step we're always in the process of becoming a mother."

Today I know even more clearly how true that is. As I reread my long-ago column, the joy of that party came back to me, that night when never could I have imagined that my terrific son John would face violence, murdered in the peaceful place that was his chosen home. And how could I have known that my beautiful Peter would be a victim of a brain malady six years later, a condition of such pain that he would take his own life in his 20s?

Oh yes, motherhood has no set job description, only a permanent question: Who are we becoming now as our children move on to face their own uncertainties?

This letter I'm holding has reminded me how uncertain, yet precious, life is and something more — that through my writing, I have connected with others.

## Letters to the Editor

### 'Twisted' pro-war views unwanted in Catholic newspaper

I just read the Letters to the Editor in the Feb. 28 edition of *The Catholic News & Herald*. I am shocked that you would print letters in support of a war with Iraq. It is bad enough that Catholics feel this way, but for you to help them disseminate their twisted world view is outrageous.

It is especially revolting to see a regurgitation of the Bush administration rationale for war, as embodied in the first letter, "Want Peace? Oust Hussein." Even if your letter writers aren't aware that the pope has taken a strong stand in opposition to a U.S. war against Iraq, which should dispel the notion that this can be considered a "just war," as editor of a diocesan newspaper you certainly should be. Could it be that the publication of such letters is a covert expression of your own personal feelings?

If so, I suggest you seriously consider stepping down from your post. While diversity of opinion is appropriate on the editorial page of a commercial newspaper, it has no place in *The Catholic News & Herald*, or any other Catholic publication, when it goes against the most fundamental tenets of our faith.

What next — are we going to start seeing letters lauding the death penalty, condemning the poor as a bunch of lazy slugs or calling for regime change at the Vatican?

Thomas J. Strini  
Mint Hill

### Pacifism won't bring peace

What a pleasure and I might say surprise that you printed the letter from Dana Erbrecht of Charlotte ("Want peace? Oust Hussein," Feb. 28). That letter expresses the sentiment of many of us out here in the pews.

Unfortunately, the official position of the Catholic Church and some other denominations is that of pacifism and appeasement, and the pope of all people should know better because that has never worked in the past.

We have the choice of removing Saddam Hussein and his regime now and pay a price or wait until later and pay a bigger price. Even the Bible says: "There is a time for peace and a time for war."

R.W. Keenan  
Horse Shoe, N.C.

### Letters to the Editor

*The Catholic News & Herald welcomes letters from readers. We ask that letters be originals of 250 words or less.*

*To be considered for publication, each letter must include the address and phone number of the writer for purposes of verification.*

*Letters may be condensed due to space limitations and edited for clarity, style and taste.*

*Send letters to: Letters to the Editor, The Catholic News & Herald, P.O. Box 37627, Charlotte, N.C. 28237, or e-mail catholicnews@charlottediocese.org.*





# Light One Candle

MSGR. JIM LISANTE  
GUEST COLUMNIST

**Safe in her arms**

You know that at The Christophers one of our goals is convincing people that they can make a difference. Many Christopher friends do exactly that, as we've found out over the years. We've also found out that some of them do so in unusual ways. That's the case with Ann Kierce, a 79-year-old volunteer worker from Waldwick, N.J., who for 15 years has been making a difference for lots of little people in her care — and she does it all while she's sitting down.

I read about Ann in a beautiful feature story written by Elaine D'Aurizio in *The Record*, a leading northern New Jersey newspaper. Three times a week, I learned from Elaine's story, Ann Kierce travels to St. Joseph's Regional Medical Center in Paterson for the sole purpose of sitting down and cuddling tiny babies.

They're not just any babies, of course. They're patients in the neonatal intensive care unit, and some of them weigh as little as a pound. No matter their size, no matter their condition, Ann holds them tenderly while she sits in her rocker. She coos at them, talks softly to them, sings them lullabies.

"You get a certain feeling, a certain warmth, when they hand you a baby," she said.

While all the babies in the unit (130 of them at the time this story appeared) get top-notch medical atten-

tion, not all of them know the maternal love that newborns usually experience. As D'Aurizio wrote: "Many moms are still recuperating from difficult births. Because some babies stay for months, their mothers must return to work and — with other children at home — cannot visit as often as they'd like. Other mothers have abandoned their children — some because they don't care and others because visiting a child they know will never come home is too painful to deal with."

That's where Ann Kierce comes in. She recalls one infant who was brain dead and never closed his eyes. His mother never visited, and when some staff members wanted to close the baby's eyes she wouldn't let them.

"I told them that somewhere inside this baby, he must know that someone is holding him, that someone cares. Even when they are not mentally alive, they must feel that they are not forgotten."

Ann's maternal instincts come to her naturally. She has three children of her own (including Dr. Roger Kierce, chairman of St. Joseph's OB-GYN department) and seven grandchildren, and the love she provides to the babies she cuddles is critical. "I wish we could clone her," said the nurse who heads the unit.

"She's a wonderful, compassionate woman and wonderful with the babies," said Dr. Adel Zauk, chief of neonatology. "She does it out of the kindness of her heart and always with a smile on her face. She really acts as the parent for these children, and the bonding she does is very important."

Dr. Zauk added, however, that it can be emotionally difficult. "Nobody wants to see a sick baby. It's hard."

Even though she knows that some of the infants she holds will not survive, Ann long ago resolved to change their world as long as they live. "It's like holding my own babies," she explained. "They are so fragile, so adorable. You know there has to be a God to create something like this."

# Guest Column

FATHER  
JOHN AURILIA,  
OFM CAP  
GUEST COLUMNIST



## Here we go again: Lenten resolutions

I don't know yet if the New Year's resolutions are more volatile than the Lenten resolutions. Here we go again with giving up candies, chocolate, coffee, smoking. My advice? Don't do all of the above in a one-shot deal.

I do know that it is good to make resolutions and keep them. What principles do we follow in making and keeping our resolutions? The text of St. Matthew may unravel the answer we are looking for. "I tell you," said Jesus, "unless your holiness surpasses that of the Scribes and Pharisees, you shall not enter the kingdom of God" (Mt. 5:20).

In our pluralistic culture, we are bombarded on every side with isms, cults and voices, which, apparently, all show the highway to God. Jesus, however, knew the moral theology before the theologians wrote those big volumes in Latin. Jesus doesn't require pious, outward religious trappings, right actions according to the law. He is infinitely more interested in the right reason for our actions.

Jesus goes beyond our moral principles: he tells us to do the right thing for the right reason. A paradigm through proper liturgical motions doesn't make anybody better or worse. Prayer or the absence of it makes us better or worse.

Our good Lord goes beyond "Thou shall not kill." He adds, "Thou shall not hate." Our resolutions, therefore, should be right and for the right reason.

Another quality of good resolutions is confidence that we can do it. A poet and an artist examined a painting by Poussin representing the healing of the blind man of Jericho. The poet said: "Everything in the painting is excellently portrayed — the form of Christ, the grouping of the individuals, the expression in the faces of the leading characters, etc...." The artist seemed to find the most significant touch elsewhere. He said to his friend, pointing to the steps of the house in the corner of the picture: "Do you see that discarded cane lying there? My friend, on those steps the blind man sat with the cane clutched tightly in his hand, but when he heard Christ come, he was so sure he would be healed that he let his cane lie there, since he would need it no more and hastened to the Lord as if he could already see. Is not that a wonderful conception of the confidence of faith?"

He was right. Too often we hold on to canes and crutches and other means of self-help paraphernalia, instead of going to the Savior, who can make sense of our nonsense. Good Lenten resolutions rely on God, but our "yes" is required.

Our life is a beautiful tapestry of light and shadows weaved with courage, fear, love and hate. The beauty of that tapestry is not what comes into your life that makes the pattern; it's the use you make of it that counts. Having the humility of not being the smartest, the best, and the infallible, makes things much easier for effective resolutions.

**Saying the new mysteries of light**

*Q. When are we going to put the new mysteries in the daily rosary? Aren't we supposed to say the new mysteries on Thursday? In some recitations of the rosary that is not done. I'd really like to know what is right. (Illinois)*

A. As most Catholics are aware, the rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary is among the most popular prayers of our faith for contemplating the life and teachings of Christ. In a series of 15 mysteries (joyful, sorrowful and glorious), with prayers including numerous recitations of the Hail Mary, we reflect on the early and final events in the life of our Lord, usually in light of Mary's direct experience and participation in these events.

In a recent apostolic letter titled "The Rosary of the Virgin Mary" (October 2002), Pope John Paul II offered five additional mysteries for meditation on particularly significant moments in the public ministry of Jesus, between his baptism and his death and resurrection.

These mysteries, he said, may be called in a special way mysteries of light since the truth that Christ is the "light of the world" (Jn 8:12) emerges in a special way during those years when he proclaims the good news of the kingdom of God. Each of these mysteries, said the pope, is a revelation of the kingdom now present in the world in the person of Jesus.

The five mysteries of light, which our Holy Father also calls luminous mysteries, are:

1. The baptism of Christ in the Jordan River, when the Holy Spirit invests him with his mission from the Father.
2. His self-revelation at Cana (Jn 2:1-12), when he opens the hearts of his disciples to faith.
3. The preaching by which Jesus proclaims the kingdom of God, calls people to conversion "and forgives the sins of all who draw near him in humble trust."
4. The Transfiguration, when Christ prepares the apostles to experience the passion, the joy of the resurrection and life transfigured by the Holy Spirit, and
5. The institution of the Eucharist in which Jesus offers his body and blood as food under the signs of bread and wine, and testifies "to the end" his love for humanity (Jn 13:1).

# Question Corner

FATHER JOHN DIETZEN  
CNS COLUMNIST



The pope did suggest that the "mysteries of light" could be meditated upon on Thursdays, with the joyful mysteries on Monday and Saturday, the sorrowful on Tuesday and Friday, and the glorious on Wednesday and Sunday. As has been noted often, however, many beautiful ideas and helpful proposals have been smothered to death by someone wanting to turn them into laws.

Clearly, in his letter the pope is attempting not to do that. The rosary is "one of the traditional paths of Christian prayer directed to the contemplation of Christ's face," he writes. How and whether to implement his recommendations "is left to the freedom of individuals and communities," to each one's spiritual life and journey.

Without question, this form of prayer has proved immensely powerful for centuries in bringing people to the contemplation of Christ through the eyes and memories of Mary. This contemplative meditation is essential for the rosary. Without it the rosary is "a body without a soul," and "its recitation runs the risk of becoming a mechanical repetition of formulas," says the pope, quoting the apostolic exhortation "Marialis Cultus" of Pope Paul VI.

According to John Paul II, it is this contemplative remembering, starting with Mary's experience, that makes present for us today "the works brought about by God in the history of salvation." It is this focus on Christ, he says, by which the rosary "makes us peacemakers in the world."



## DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRY

**St. Leo the Great Catholic Church** located in beautiful Winston-Salem is searching for a youth minister to continue an established Life Teen program centered on the Eucharist. We are seeking an enthusiastic, passionate, faith-filled individual to direct young people toward a meaningful, life-affirming journey with Christ.

If you are a Catholic with a college degree, have a strong spiritual, faith-based background, a passion for working with youth, and at least two years of practical experience as a youth minister, please consider this opportunity.

The Life Teen Mass is every Sunday at 5PM during the school year. Our awesome Life Teen band leads Praise and Worship songs, many original. We have a dedicated Core Team made up of singles and couples and a committed group of parent volunteers. Most important, however, are the 150 (and growing) young people who participate in our Spirit Night (Jr. Youth), Life Night (Sr. Youth), other activities and retreats. Also, recent additions to the Family Life Center feature a room dedicated to its youth, a Youth Minister's office, kitchenette and entertainment center.

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## ST. MICHAEL, from page 1

\$2.1 million, 13,500 square-foot church featuring a symbolically placed baptistery, the St. Katherine Drexel Chapel, a Blessed Sacrament adoration area, reception rooms, a nursery and hospitality space.

The sanctuary seats 750 people, more than double the capacity of the old church.

"Now we can accommodate everybody," said Andrew Milewski, a parishioner of 36 years. "Maybe I can meet some other people who used to go to other Masses, because now they can all go to one."

Parishioners often had to stand at one of the three Sunday Masses and the Saturday vigil Mass. The Spanish-language Sunday Mass was equally packed, in part due to Gaston County's 562 percent increase in Hispanic/Latino population since 1990.

It was 10 years ago that then-pastor Father George Kloster, the first diocesan priest to serve as pastor, initiated the long-term Project 2000 Building Fund. The building project has been handed down to three subsequent pastors — Father Larry Heiney in 1998, Father John Allen in 1999 and Father Mulligan in 2000, who considered himself as the "caboose on a train."

"As a recent arrival, I must say I had a little lump in my throat when I came in here this morning," said Father Mulligan. "I am truly pleased to be a part of this community, and I hope in some small way that I have contributed by my presence."

"There has been an opportunity for a lot of people to put their signature on this, from the clergy side to the community side of St. Michael's," said Stuart LaFrancis, chairman of the parish pastoral council. "There are a lot of pieces of everyone."

The church also incorporates familiar elements of the old church, including statues and Stations of the Cross.

"They have a place of honor here," said LaFrancis. "It's a blending of the old and new."

### A noble history

Father Mulligan paid tribute to all who made possible the completion of the new St. Michael Church, as well as to the dedication of the Sisters of Mercy to the parish school and to the Benedictines who founded the original St. Michael.

"For 89 years, the Benedictine community of Belmont Abbey served this church well and nobly," he said.

In 1902, with a \$1,500 donation from Mother Katherine Drexel of the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament for Indians and Colored People, Right Rev. Leo Haid of Mary Help Abbey (now Belmont Abbey) began construction on a new mission church. In 1903, St. Michael had 12 parishioners. By 1922, the number had risen to 58.

Father Walter O'Brien became pastor in 1925 and added a rectory beside the church and began offering daily Mass. When Father Alphonse

Buss became pastor in 1936, he initiated a parish vacation school in religious instruction and organized Boy Scout Troop 13. Adult activities grew with formation of a Men's Club and a Catholic Women's Club.

At the insistence of parishioners, Father Buss established St. Michael's Grammar School in 1942. The first-through sixth-grade school was in a five-room house and run by two Sisters of Mercy, including Mother Margaret Mary Wheeler, the first principal.

Sisters of Mercy continue to serve as educators in the modern kindergarten through eighth-grade school designed and dedicated in 1952 with 120 students.

Structural failures and a steeple col-

lapse forced then-pastor Father Gregory Eichenlaub to initiate designs for a new church beside the school. That church, which cost \$160,000, was dedicated in 1958 and seated 300 people in its 4,700 square foot building. The building, which still stands, will continue to be used for small weddings and other ceremonies.

In 1989, then-Bishop John F. Donoghue of the Diocese of Charlotte installed Father Kloster as pastor. The congregation continued to grow to 3,192.

### 'You are the church'

Bishop Curlin was impressed with the new St. Michael Church.

"This looks like a church!" he said.

"As soon as I came here, I said 'wow.'"

"But when all is said and done," he asked, "what is a church?"

"As lovely as this church is ... you are the church of God," said Bishop Curlin. "Here, we might be strengthened in the love of Jesus Christ, see him in one another and take that loving presence to our world."

"We give thanks to God. This is indeed a day that the Lord has made," said Father Mulligan. "Let us rejoice and be glad and may God continue the good work that he has begun in all of us."

Contact Acting Editor Kevin E. Murray by calling (704) or e-mail [kemurray@charlottediocese.org](mailto:kemurray@charlottediocese.org).

## In our increasingly interconnected world,

### Can we ignore even one child?

Within the next eight years, Africa will be home to over 30 million AIDS orphans. Without greater intervention from the world's developed nations, these children will grow up without a home, without hope and without a productive future. As Catholics, the Gospel calls us to respond.

Catholic Relief Services believes that a crisis of this dimension warrants a high level of commitment from the United States. Through the advocacy campaign *Africa Rising, Hope and Healing*, we ask you to join CRS in urging your members of Congress to be generous in their response to the call of Africa.

Put your faith into action on behalf of the children of Africa. Contact your Catholic Relief Services Diocesan Director, or Catholic Relief Services, to find out how you can make a difference.

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## Sister Enrica Federal, Greensboro native, dies at 91

EMMITSBURG, Md. — Daughter of Charity Sister Enrica Federal died March 5 at Villa St. Michael, the province's retirement residence in Emmitsburg. She was 91.

Born in Greensboro, Margaret Federal grew up in Charlotte and was a member of St. Peter Church. She graduated from Central High School in 1930 and entered the Daughters of Charity in 1932, where she received the name Sister Enrica and pronounced her vows in 1937.

Sister Enrica received a bachelor's degree in English from St. Joseph College in Emmitsburg in 1936, and a master's in secondary education from Villanova University in 1949. Over the years, Sister Enrica attended the University of Detroit, the Catholic University of America, Loyola College and New York University.

Sister Enrica's long career in education began in 1933 with her first teaching assignment, a nine-year term at Holy Cross Academy in Lynchburg, Va. She went on to teach at St. Martin's High School in Baltimore, Md., Bishop England High School in Charleston, S.C., McCloskey High School in Albany, N.Y., and Immaculate Conception Academy in Washington, D.C. She served as principal of St. Joseph's School in Martinsburg, W.Va., and Seton High School in Baltimore.

In 1983, Sister Enrica returned to St. Joseph's School in Martinsburg and worked in the library, which was her last school mission. In 1988, she was assigned to St. Joseph's Provincial House where she visited the aged and infirm sisters in Villa St. Michael and then became a resident of the Villa in 1991.

Sister Enrica is survived by one brother, R.K. Federal of Charlotte, many nieces and nephews, and grandnieces and grandnephews.

A funeral Mass was celebrated at the Basilica of the National Shrine of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton in Emmitsburg March 10.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Daughters of Charity Support Fund for the Elderly and Infirm Sisters, 333 S. Seton Avenue, Emmitsburg, Md. 21727.

## RCIA, from page 1

tiation of Adults (RCIA) is the rite in which adults are baptized, confirmed and receive first communion. RCIA was restored by the Second Vatican Council as the accepted way adults prepare for baptism. In 1974 the Rite for Christian Initiation for Adults was formally approved for use in the United States.

RCIA is "life giving for churches," according to Margie Sullivan, staff member of the North American Forum on the Catechumenate. In 1997 there were 75,645 adult baptisms, an increase from 69,894 in 1996. In 1997 there were 85,970 received into full communion with the Catholic Church.

Before formally beginning the RCIA process, a person considers his or her relationship with Jesus Christ and is interested in some way in the Catholic Church. This period is known as the Period of Evangelization and Precatechumenate. For some inquirers, this process involves a long period of searching; for others, it is a shorter time. Often, relationships with people of faith and a personal faith experience lead people to inquire about membership in the Catholic Church.

After discerning their desire to join the Catholic Church, the inquirers may decide to continue the process and enter the Period of the Catechumenate. This stage can last for a few months or for as long as several years.

The duration of the Period of the Catechumenate depends on how the person is growing in faith, what questions and obstacles they encounter and how God leads them on this faith journey. During this time, the initial conversion is deepened, the person comes to understand their relationship with God in their own lives and within the church community.

The next step is the request for baptism and the celebration of the Rite of Election, which was held March 9. This rite includes the official enrollment of the names of those catechumens seeking baptism at the Easter Vigil. At this time, catechumens from throughout the diocese, together with their sponsors, assemble and request baptism from the



COURTESY PHOTO

Catechumens and their sponsors gather at the altar of St. Gabriel Church for the Rite of Election March 9. The catechumens and candidates were presented to Monsignor Mauricio West, diocesan administrator, to request initiation into full communion with the Catholic Church.

bishop. Candidates are also introduced to the bishop during this rite.

The third formal stage is the Celebration of the Sacraments of Initiation, which occurs during the Easter Vigil Liturgy on Holy Saturday night. During the vigil, catechumens receive the sacraments of baptism, confirmation and Holy Eucharist, and candidates receive confirmation and Holy Eucharist. At this time, they become fully initiated members of the Catholic Church.

Following initiation at the Vigil, a final period of formation and education continues in the stage known as "mystagogy." During this period, which lasts until Pentecost or later, the newly baptized reflect on the events of the Easter Vigil and continue to learn more about the Scriptures, the sacraments and

the teachings of the Catholic Church.

"In order to form a relationship with the Lord, we must make some effort to bond together as Christians," said Dale Brown, coordinator for RCIA at Our Lady of Consolation Church. "RCIA allows people to share their feelings about their relationship with Jesus, and, therefore enhances others' relationships through that communication."

*Educational Ministries and Faith Formation will reap a fruitful harvest thanks to your contribution to the Diocesan Support Appeal.*



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The law of the LORD is perfect, refreshing the soul; The decree of the LORD is trustworthy, giving wisdom to the simple. The precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; the command of the LORD is clear, enlightening the eye.

Psalm 19:8,9

# The Catholic

## NEWS & HERALD

Reaping a fruitful harvest

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MARCH 21, 2003

SERVING CATHOLICS IN WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA IN THE DIOCESE OF CHARLOTTE

VOLUME 12 No 26

## Vatican warns that those who give up on peace must answer to God

By JOHN NORTON  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — As U.S. President George W. Bush set a countdown for war on Iraq, the Vatican warned that whoever gives up on peaceful solutions would have to answer for the decision to God and history.

The Vatican statement March 18 came a day after Bush gave Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and his sons a 48-hour ultimatum to leave Iraq to avoid military conflict.

"Whoever decides that all the

peaceful means made available under international law are exhausted assumes a grave responsibility before God, his conscience and history," said Vatican spokesman Joaquin Navarro-Valls.

The one-sentence statement did not mention Bush or any other international leaders by name.

For months, the Vatican has spoken out against a possible war, calling on all sides to pursue diplomacy to avoid a fresh conflict.

In one of his most impass-

See VATICAN, page 4

## Keeping Charlotte green



PHOTOS BY KEVIN E. MURRAY



Above, Irish dancers from Rince na h'Eireann School of Traditional Irish Dance step lively in Charlotte's seventh annual St. Patrick's Day Parade March 14. Left, St. Patrick School rolls down the parade route.

For more parade photos, see pages 8-9.

## Our Lady of Mercy School is charged with spirit

Students, staff, parents work together to benefit all

By KEVIN E. MURRAY  
ACTING EDITOR

WINSTON-SALEM — Sandra McMonagle looked out with pride at the children on the school's playground.

"This is the beauty of it," she remarked. "We never had children playing on the grass before."

It's not difficult to see that McMonagle, principal of Our Lady of Mercy School, is proud of her students, her staff and her new school; in February, they all moved into the vacant build-

ing once used as Bishop McGuinness High School.

"It's been a long time coming," she said. "We've been seriously planning on expanding the school for five years."



PHOTO BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

Our Lady of Mercy School sixth-graders beam with pride over their new school.

The old high school gave Our Lady of Mercy School the much-needed room to expand.

"We now have the space we did not have before," said

McMonagle. "We had no music room, no science lab, no

See OLM, page 9

### MAKING SAFER SCHOOLS

## Diocesan schools enact emergency response plan

By KEVIN E. MURRAY  
ACTING EDITOR

CHARLOTTE — To be prepared for the unexpected, schools in the Diocese of Charlotte have implemented new protocols to handle emergency situations.

Effective March 17, the Diocesan School Plan for Emergency Situations requires all di-

ocesan schools to have enhanced versions of their individual plans for dealing with fire, tornado and lock-down situations.

"The basic part of our diocesan plan directs each school to include certain procedures in its plan, as well as certain communications that must be made available," said Linda Cherry,

superintendent of diocesan schools. "We wanted each school to adapt the plan specifically to its school."

Schools must now be able to adequately respond to emergency situations that may occur inside the buildings or in the surrounding

See SCHOOL PLAN, page 14

Trail of tears to path of hope

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Virginia students volunteer in Belmont

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LAOH keeps Irish heritage alive

...PAGE 8

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### Catholic leaders, hospitals take action on plight of uninsured

WASHINGTON (CNS) — With interfaith prayer breakfasts and free diabetes screenings, homilies and eligibility check-ups for enrollments in state health programs, religious leaders and Catholic hospitals took action during the week of March 10-16 to raise awareness of the plight of the uninsured. "Cover the Uninsured Week," an initiative of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation with sponsorship by dozens of national organizations, included at least 60 interfaith events and more than 200 health fairs around the country, offering free services to local residents regardless of whether they had health insurance. "As pressures mount on the health system, we must ensure that all people can access adequate services," said Archbishop John C. Favalora of Miami at a March 14 prayer breakfast at Miami's Mercy Hospital. "Extending meaningful insurance coverage to them will make this possible." He praised the many other faith traditions engaged in providing health care in Florida — including the Jewish, Baptist and Seventh-day Adventist communities — who have established hospitals and church-run enterprises, as well as others who are compelled to serve those with health care needs.

### Troops called to active duty urged to bond together in face of war

DENVER (CNS) — A Denver priest told a group of Catholic reservists being deployed for a possible U.S. war against Iraq that they were leaving behind friends and loved ones but they were "not going alone." Benedictine Father Ed Kucera, who spent 20 years in the Army, advised the young Catholics to "bond together and help each other through," and "look to each other for solace and comfort." Father Kucera also advised them to use their "down time" for personal growth, especially during Lent. "This is a time of anxiety for sure, but it can also be a time for self-examination. Ask yourself, 'What did I learn today?'" he said. The priest made the comments March 5 during an Ash Wednesday Mass, which came on the eve of mobilization for 18 men and two



CNS PHOTO BY DECLAN WALSH

**Priest comforts drought-stricken children in Ethiopia**  
Consolata Missionary Father Giovanetti Giuseppe comforts children from the village of Arba Gosa, south of the Ethiopian capital of Addis Ababa, in early March. Ethiopia faces drought and famine, with more than 4 million people needing direct food aid.

women in the 96th Army Reserve Command. Their battalion of 600 troops was mobilized the following day.

### Castro's support for new religious convent widens gap with bishops

HAVANA (CNS) — The opening of a new convent in Havana has further widened the divisions between Cuban President Fidel Castro and the Cuban bishops. But in this case, it is Castro who is the strong supporter of the new religious presence while the bishops are complaining about the circumstances surrounding the opening. At the opening, Castro was heavily praised by non-Cuban Catholic leaders, including a Vatican cardinal. The March 8 inaugu-

ration of a convent for the Brigidine Sisters came less than two weeks after Cardinal Jaime Ortega Alamino of Havana criticized Castro's 44-year rule and asked for greater freedom for the church. Several Cuban bishops said that Castro used the ceremony, widely-publicized by state television and the government-controlled press, to show that he has good relations with the Vatican and international church leaders while his problems are limited to malcontents in the Cuban hierarchy. The bishops said the Brigidines and Castro went around them by getting permission from the Vatican before requesting it from Cardinal Ortega at a time when many religious orders and foreign priests have

support for those caregivers who have lost their caregiver role. For more information, call Suzanne Bach at (704) 376-4135.

**26 CHARLOTTE** — All families who have suffered a loss are invited to attend the monthly memorial Mass at St. Patrick Cathedral, 1621 Dilworth Rd. East, tonight at 7:30 p.m. Call the church office at (704) 334-2283 with the name(s) of loved ones so they may be remembered during the Mass.

**27 BELMONT** — Artist and jewelry designer Mercy Sister Soledad Aguilo will hold three Loco Design Workshops at Kent Hall. Workshops will be held today, April 3 and 30 6:30-8:30 p.m. Class fees include wire and beading to produce approximately 4-6 necklaces and/or bracelets. Attendees will learn how to use appropriate tools and techniques for making beaded jewelry. Must be 16 or older to attend. For details, call Sister Soledad at (704) 829-5146 or e-mail soledad@mercync.org.

**28 CHARLOTTE** — St. Gabriel

been waiting for years to get government permission to work in Cuba.

### Vatican to issue decree on Eucharist after encyclical's publication

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The Vatican's doctrinal congregation and the congregation overseeing the sacraments are drafting a document underlining the importance of following church norms regarding the celebration of the Eucharist and eucharistic adoration. Vatican officials said the decree of the congregations for the Doctrine of the Faith and for Divine Worship and the Sacraments is expected to be published in the fall. Pope John Paul II's new encyclical on the Eucharist, tentatively titled "Ecclesia de Eucharistia" ("The Church of the Eucharist"), is scheduled for publication Holy Thursday, April 17. Archbishop Francesco Pio Tamburrino, secretary of the sacraments office, said the planned decree "depends on the text of the encyclical and whether the Holy Father feels a need for practical indications to be given."

### Hong Kong Diocese tells volunteers to stop visiting hospital patients

HONG KONG (CNS) — The Hong Kong Diocese advised its volunteer pastoral workers to stop visiting patients in hospitals because of the outbreak of a virulent strain of pneumonia. Deacon Karl Tsang Fan-hing of the Hong Kong Diocesan Commission for Hospital Pastoral Care said the increasing number of cases of severe acute respiratory syndrome, or SARS, an atypical pneumonia whose pathology had not yet been determined, forced the diocese to issue the notice to volunteers. The deacon March 17 told UCA News, an Asian church news agency based in Thailand, that Tuen Mun in the New Territories is the district affected worst by SARS and that volunteers also were told to stop telephone counseling on the matter due to lack of information. However, the deacon said that he and some priests have continued to visit hospital wards to comfort patients and offer Communion and other sacraments to Catholic patients. He said he believed that hospital procedures for dealing with the situation would adequately protect the priests.

Church Men's Club will hold their World Famous Fish Fry tonight 5-7 p.m. in the school cafeteria, 3016 Providence Rd. Menu includes fried and baked fish, clam chowder, slaw, fries, hush puppies, dessert and beverages all for one low price.

**28 CHARLOTTE** — St. Luke Church, 13700 Lawyers Rd., will host a Third World Dinner tonight 6:30-9:30 p.m. in the Family Life Center. The meal will be a simple supper of black beans and rice. Featured speaker Frederick Yebuah will address the topics of current mission operations in Mexico and Catholic Relief Services in Iraq. Please bring one can of food per person to be donated to Loaves and Fishes. Sign up by calling the parish office at (704) 545-1224.

**28 LEXINGTON** — Our Lady of the Rosary Church, 711 South Main St., will host a soup and sandwich dinner at 5:30 p.m. every Friday during Lent, followed by Salesian Reflections and Lenten Devotion with Benediction. All are welcome to attend. In addition, OLR will host a fish fry tonight 5-8 p.m. in the Parish Center. Fish

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## Diocesan planner

### March

**25 SWANNANOVA** — The Mother of Mercy Messengers will present "Tell all Souls about My Mercy!" tonight at St. Margaret Mary Church, 102 Andrew Pl., beginning with Mass at 6:30 p.m. MOMM, an outreach of the national Shrine of The Divine Mercy, will present a 90-minute program of prayer and reflection on the important message of Mercy given to the first saint of the new millennium, St. Maria Faustina. The program will take place 7-9 p.m. For more information call (828) 686-8833.

**26 CHARLOTTE** — Shining Stars Adult Respite, which helps families dealing with memory loss, will hold a bereavement support group meeting today 1:30-3 p.m. in Room E of the ministry center at St. Gabriel Church, 3016 Providence Rd. This group offers



### Illinois pastor reports back from the front lines in Kuwait

ROMEOLVILLE, Ill. (CNS) — As the United States was preparing to launch a military assault on Iraq, parishioners at St. Mary Magdalene Parish in Joliet worried about the safety of one of their own — Father Ron Neitzke, their pastor. Father Neitzke, a military chaplain with the U.S. Marine Corps Expeditionary Forces in Readiness, a civil engineering division of the U.S. Department of the Navy, left a teary-eyed congregation behind Jan. 19 as he shipped out with his reserve unit. He was sent to Kuwait Feb. 9, but according to the parish's administrative assistant, Annette Murphy, communication with Father Neitzke has been sparse at best. She said written correspondence takes approximately 20 days to arrive from the Middle Eastern country and the troops no longer have access to e-mail. In a letter to students and staff at the parish school dated Feb. 18, Father Neitzke described the part of the country where he is stationed as flat, dry and dusty, with no trees and little vegetation. He noted that the only sign of life he has seen around the camp besides the troops was a pack of wild dogs, but he said he had been told the approaching warmer weather means several species of snakes, scorpions, spiders, lizards and rats will come out of hibernation.

### Medicaid reforms must protect 'fragile safety net,' CHA official says

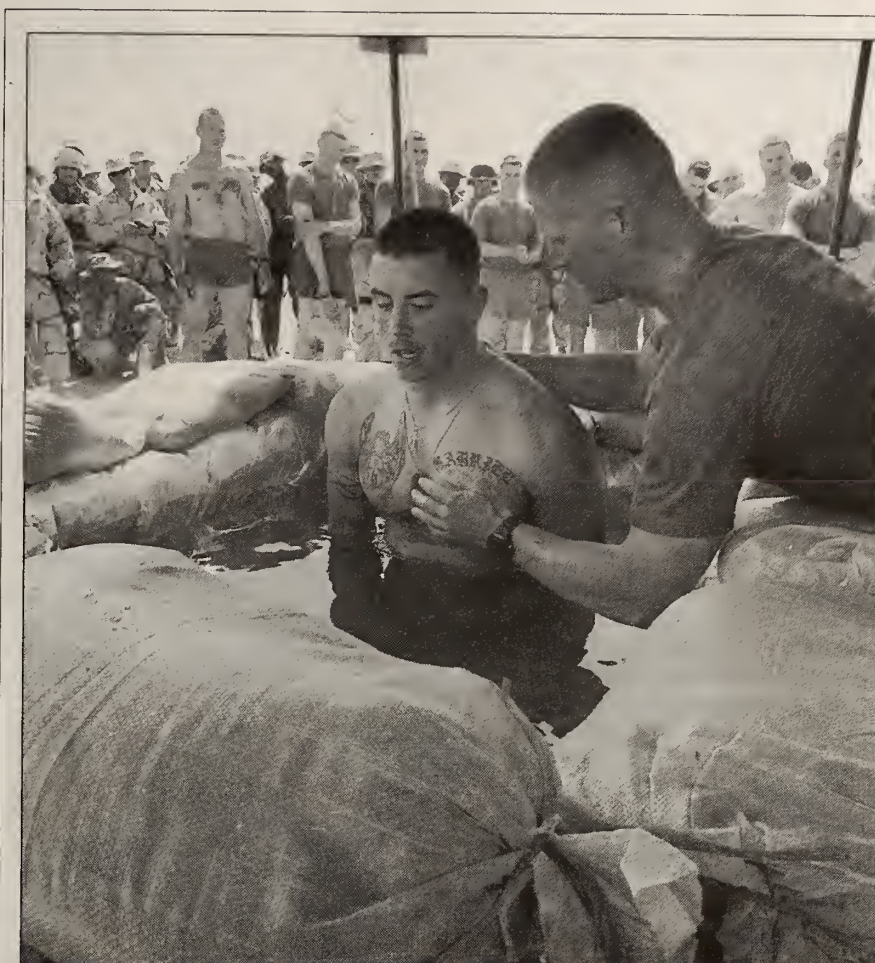
WASHINGTON (CNS) — In making reforms aimed at improving Medicaid, Congress must take "great care" not to "unravel our nation's already fragile safety net," the president and CEO of the Catholic Health Association said March 12. In written testimony submitted to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce, Father Michael D. Place said Medicaid, the joint federal-state health insurance program for low-income people, has been increasingly subject to efforts to limit eligibility, reduce benefits and provider reimbursements, or increase cost-sharing to balance state budgets. "Yet cutting Medicaid spending is not really a means of containing health care costs,"

fry take-outs will be available and both dinners are open to the public. For details on either event, call (336) 248-2463.

**28 BELMONT** — Belmont Abbey College is offering two campus visit days, today and April 11 for prospective students. For more information, call (888) 222-0110.

**29 CHARLOTTE** — St. Luke Church, 13700 Lawyers Rd., will host a Day of Retreat and Simple Living today 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. in the Family Life Center. The retreat will consist of prayer, music, discussion and reflections on Catholic Social Teachings and the world around us. Refreshments and a light lunch will be provided. There is no charge to attend, and the retreat is open to all. Sign up by calling the parish office at (704) 545-1224.

**29 CHARLOTTE** — The Knights of Columbus are holding its 4th Annual Daddy/Daughter Dance tonight at St. Thomas Aquinas Church, 1400 Suther Rd. in Aquinas Hall. The theme this year will be a Luau. Our Heritage Studios will be on hand to take photographs 6-8 p.m.,



CNS PHOTO FROM REUTERS

### U.S. soldier is baptized in northern Kuwait

U.S. Marine Albert Martinez from Sunnyvale, Calif., is about to be immersed in a makeshift baptismal pool made of sandbags and plastic sheeting as Baptist chaplains baptize infantrymen March 16 in northern Kuwait near the Iraq border. Pope John Paul II urged Iraq and the United Nations to consider the "tremendous consequences" of the potential conflict and avert war.

he said. "It simply shifts the costs to other parts of the health care system and to individuals who are least able to afford it."

### Salt Lake City bishop responds to safe return of Elizabeth Smart

SALT LAKE CITY (CNS) — Bishop George H. Niederauer of Salt Lake City joined people nationwide in celebrating the safe return March 12 of teen-ager Elizabeth Smart, who had

and DJ Curious George will provide the music. Dinner will be served at 6:30 and the dance will be 7-10 p.m. All proceeds will benefit the Special Olympics. For tickets or more information please contact Michael or Beth Rocha @ (704) 598-9687 or e-mail aperfectmix1@aol.com

**29 GASTONIA** — St. Michael Church, 708 St. Michael's Ln., will host its 7th annual International Dinner tonight with dancing, live entertainment, auction, raffle and more. A social hour will begin at 6 p.m. and dinner will be served at 7 p.m. Call (704) 867-6212 for tickets and information.

**29 GREENSBORO** — St. Pius X Church, 2210 N. Elm St., will host a Hunger Banquet tonight at 6:30 p.m. At this unique dining experience, 60% of banquet attendees will eat a simple one-course meal, 30% a moderate one-course meal and 10% an elegant three-course meal. All donations benefit Catholic Relief Services' "Africa Rising: Hope and Healing" campaign. The banquet is recommended for anyone 10 years of age or older. To register, please

been missing since she was abducted from her family's Salt Lake City home last June. "Utah Catholics join our neighbors in thanking God for Elizabeth's safe return," he said, "just as we have joined them in prayer and support during these past nine months." According to the Salt Lake City Tribune, Brian David Mitchell, 49, and Wanda Ilene Barzee, 57, allegedly held the girl undetected for more than nine months after she was forcibly taken from her bedroom

contact Joe Bauer at jlbauer@aol.com or Kathy Davidson at (336) 288-2785 or kath.davidson@worldnet.att.net.

**29 SALISBURY** — School of Leaders will meet at Sacred Heart Church, 128 N. Fulton St., today 9-11:30 a.m., following the 8 a.m. Mass. There will also be a Secretariat meeting 1-2:30 p.m. For more information, call Dan Hines at (704) 544-6665 or visit [www.charlottecursillo.org](http://www.charlottecursillo.org). To receive Cursillo information via e-mail, contact bmayer@alltell.net.

**29 MOORESVILLE** — St. Therese Church is hosting a health fair today 9 a.m.-1 p.m. in its Parish Life Center, 217 Brawley School Road. This free event is open to the community and offers free health screenings and information for all ages. There will be more than 40 different exhibitors (private practitioners, organizations and businesses related to the health industry). Any questions please call Joe Dreiling at (704) 660-5254, Yvette Leger at (704) 733-5351 or Mary Martin (704) 662-9128.

June 5, 2002. Mitchell was widely known as "Emmanuel," an itinerant par-handling street preacher who dressed in white robes. Police could not say whether 15-year-old Elizabeth, who was found in good health, had tried to escape.

### Vatican says embassy in Iraq will remain open in event of war

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The Vatican said it would not close its embassy in Baghdad, Iraq, in the event of a U.S.-led military campaign in the Middle East country. "It is the constant tradition of the Holy See that its diplomatic representatives remain close to the populations to which they are sent, even in situations of extreme danger," Vatican spokesman Joaquin Navarro-Valls said March 14 in a brief statement. "The apostolic nunciature in Baghdad will remain open even in the case of a possible armed intervention in the country," he said. The Vatican Embassy in Baghdad also remained open during the 1991 Gulf War. Most other countries have closed their embassies in Baghdad amid the heightened threat of a new war. Italy's diplomatic personnel in Iraq left in early March.

### Tabernacle debate is nothing new, not even in St. Peter's Basilica

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Debate over the placement of the tabernacle in Catholic churches is nothing new and, in fact, some Catholics continue to ask the Vatican to place a tabernacle on the main altar of St. Peter's Basilica. Despite an order issued in 1657 by cardinals responsible for the basilica, consecrated hosts have never been preserved under St. Peter's famous baldacchino or on the Altar of the Chair in the church's apse. As Pope John Paul II prepared to issue an encyclical on the Eucharist in April, a new book recounted the 17th-century order and the relative ease with which baroque artist Gian Lorenzo Bernini had it rescinded. The book, "From Triumph to Love," was written by the German scholar Damian Dombrowski. It argues that over the six decades Bernini worked in the basilica, his faith and his art moved from a focus on the power of the popes to a focus on redemption flowing from God's unconditional love.

### April

**5 MAGGIE VALLEY** — St. Margaret Church is presenting "War: Causes, Justifications, Consequences and Alternatives" 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m. today at Murphy-Garland Hall, 1422 Soco Road (Hwy. 19). Augustinian Father James J. McCartney, associate professor of philosophy at Villanova University will address two topics, "War and Christianity: A Brief History" and "Just War Theory and Christian Pacifism." For more information or to register, call Father Frank Doyle at (828) 926-0106 or Mary Herr at (828) 497-9498 or e-mail [maryherr@dnnet.net](mailto:maryherr@dnnet.net). The cost for the workshop includes lunch. Registration deadline is April 1.

Please submit notices of events for the Diocesan Planner at least 15 days prior to the date of the event in writing to Karen A. Evans at [kaevans@charlottediocese.org](mailto:kaevans@charlottediocese.org) or fax to (704) 370-3382.



# Trail of tears to path of hope

*Cherokee history, current issues explored at program*

By JOANITA M. NELLENBACH  
CORRESPONDENT

MAGGIE VALLEY— The Smoky Mountain Vicariate, funded by an Operation Rice Bowl grant, presented "Catholics and Cherokees: Learning From Each Other" in the St. Margaret parish hall March 15.

St. Margaret Church is near the Qualla Boundary, the 56,000-acre homeland of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI) in western North Carolina.

Mary Herr, the vicariate's Catholic multicultural worker and faith formation consultant, organized the program, which will be repeated at St. William Church in Murphy June 12, 6-9 p.m. and at St. Joseph Church in Bryson City Oct. 18, 1-4 p.m.

The 35 Anglo and Cherokee attendees heard presentations on Cherokee history and current issues by EBCI members Patty Grant and Joyce Dugan and by Russ Townsend of the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma.

In the concluding presentation, Augustinian Father Francis J. Doyle, St. Margaret's pastor, highlighted the principles of Catholic social teaching: life and dignity of the human person; call to family, community and participation; rights and responsibilities of the human person; options for and with the poor and vulnerable; dignity of work and the rights of workers; solidarity; and care for God's creation.

"These principles reside in the hearts of all people, but sometimes we have not honored that," Father Doyle said. "It's really sad to think what some people, even with good intentions, have done to other people ... *Gaudium et spes* (The Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World) talks about the 'griefs and anxieties' of people, and isn't that so much of what we've heard today?"

Townsend, an archeologist with the EBCI Cultural Resources Department, described the Cherokee removal, known as the Trail of Tears, in 1838. U.S. soldiers forced about 16,000 Cherokees from their homes in the Southeast, first into detention camps, then on a march west. About 11,000 Cherokees reached Oklahoma.

"The Cherokee removal is something the Cherokee still deal with to

this very day," Townsend said.

Patty Grant, social worker advocate for the EBCI's Tribal Diabetes Program, spoke on historical trauma and grief: "A cumulative and psychic wounding across generations, related to massive root trauma."

The Cherokees endured another removal: To facilitate assimilation of people they saw as "savage," white officials took Cherokee children from their homes, often without the parents' permission and sometimes without their knowledge, and put them in government- and religious-run boarding schools.

In boarding schools, said Grant, whose mother attended such a school, children had to suppress all aspects of being Cherokee. They were punished for speaking Cherokee and for practicing Cherokee ceremonies.

"This sent a strong message that being who you were was not acceptable," said Grant.

Three to five Cherokee generations lost their culture. To lose a culture, Grant said, means "to lose a unique language, land, identity, traditional spiritual and social beliefs, and a lifeway contrary to the dominant society. This creates a sense of confusion. People can't be Cherokee, but they aren't accepted as white because their skin is dark. ... Recently doctors, ministers and others have begun to see that this (historical grief and trauma) could be the basis of some of the diseases (such as diabetes) that afflict the Cherokee."

Responses to this trauma include inability to deal with emotions, such as shutting out emotions altogether, fear of being oneself, substance abuse, severe anxiety, depression and feeling hopeless.

Grant said that this hopelessness includes fatalism about illness: "Some Cherokees say, 'Well, I'm going to die from something anyway, it might as well be diabetes,' so they deny they even have it."

Things are changing, said Joyce

Dugan, former principal chief of the EBCI (1995-1999) and now director of external relations and career development for Harrah's Cherokee Casino.

"Our kids were struggling with their identity," she said. "They wanted to be Cherokee in the traditional sense, but they also wanted to be part of the MTV crowd. They had never been taught their culture."

When Dugan was superintendent of the Qualla Boundary schools, she said, she made sure that Cherokee culture became a part of every subject in the curricula. The Cherokee language is now taught in the Boundary's schools.

After the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act passed in 1988, the EBCI began to talk about having a casino. Some tribe members didn't want the casino, Dugan said, but "government programs didn't work. Treaties said the government would care for us, but programs could be pulled. Plus, being dependent on government resources as a nation led to being dependent as individuals."

Before the 1838 removal, the Cherokee were self-governing. They had a written language and 90 percent of the Cherokee were literate in that language. They were also self-sufficient, with their own farms or plantations.

Gaming, Dugan said, has brought the tribe almost back to independence.

"We're at the point now where we can look beyond gaming to see what else we need," Dugan said. We have the money for programs. We don't have to depend on the federal government."

For more information on "Catholics and Cherokees: Learning From Each Other," contact Mary Herr at (828) 497-9498 or at [maryherr@dnet.net](mailto:maryherr@dnet.net).

Contact Correspondent Joanita M. Nellenbach by calling (828) 627-9209 or e-mail [jnell@dnet.net](mailto:jnell@dnet.net).

## VATICAN, from page 1

sioned public pleas, Pope John Paul II said March 16 that war would have "tremendous consequences" for Iraqi civilians and for the equilibrium of the entire Middle East and could foment new forms of extremism.

He called on Saddam to cooperate urgently and fully with the international community "to eliminate any motive for armed intervention," and asked member nations of the U.N. Security Council to respect their own U.N. charter, which allows the use of force only as a last resort, when all peaceful means have been exhausted.

"I say to all: There is still time to negotiate. There is still room for peace. It is never too late to understand each other and to continue to work things out," the pope said.

Bush, issuing his ultimatum from the White House, said war would be an act of self-defense against a country that had ties to terrorists and was still trying to amass, hide and develop biological, chemical and nuclear weapons.

"Instead of drifting along toward tragedy, we will set a course toward safety," he said. Bush told Iraqi civilians, "The day of your liberation is near."

The pope had sent a personal envoy, retired Italian Cardinal Pio Laghi, to Bush earlier in March to urge that the Iraqi crisis be solved peacefully through the United Nations.

After returning to Rome and briefing the pope March 15, Cardinal Laghi criticized what he called a rush to war in Iraq and said it was an illusion to think democracy can be imposed through military force.

Cardinal Laghi, a former ambassador to the United States, said there was a serious risk that a U.S.-led war with a few Western allies would be seen by many Muslims as a "Christian" war against Islam. Hatred and terrorism can be expected to increase as a result, he said.

Cardinal Laghi said he told Bush that the pope would no doubt keep up his strong anti-war statements if the United States attacks Iraq.

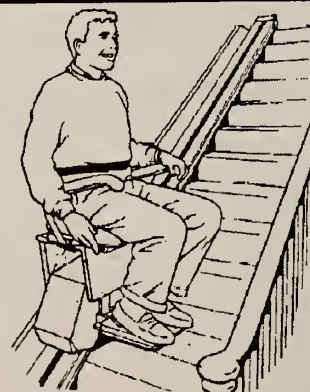
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# Reaping a Fruitful Harvest

*DSA makes final appeal for diocesan ministries*

By KAREN A. EVANS  
STAFF WRITER

CHARLOTTE — The 2003 Diocesan Support Appeal (DSA), "Reaping a Fruitful Harvest," wraps up March 23 with Appeal Sunday.

"The purpose of Appeal Sunday is to wind up the campaign by providing an opportunity for those parishioners who have not made their pledge or contribution to do so," said Barbara Gaddy, associate director of development for the Diocese of Charlotte.

Among those parishioners to whom Appeal Sunday is directed are those people who did not receive the initial mailings, many of whom are not registered with the diocese.

This year's campaign has a goal of \$3,720,000, an increase of less than five percent over the 2002 DSA.

As of March 17, \$2,434,511 had been received or pledged — 65 percent of the goal. This amount is on par with previous years, Gaddy said.

The DSA is the primary funding source for diocesan educational ministries, multi-cultural ministries and the vocations program.

Additionally, Catholic Social Services is the recipient of almost \$1.3 million in DSA gifts, said Bill Weldon, diocesan chief financial officer. These ministries are central to the mission of the church, and support of the DSA is vital to these programs.

Each year, monies collected through the DSA support ministries that affect more than 40,000 people. "Every child and adult in faith formation and every child who receives a sacrament benefits from the DSA," said Gaddy.

Among the 36 ministries supported by the DSA is Catholic Social Services.

"Catholic Social Services relies on



DSA Support for about 24 percent of its funding," said Elizabeth Thurbee, executive director for CSS for the Diocese of Charlotte. "This support allows us to reach out to the people of the Diocese of Charlotte in response to their needs."

"We are a bridge for the unemployed and financially challenged, a source of comfort for the troubled and bereaved, a safe haven for refugees, a support for pregnant women and their families and a prayed-for resource for couples wanting to build families by adopting children," Thurbee said. "We could not respond to these needs without the support of the Diocesan Support Appeal."

Youth ministry also depends on vital DSA support.

"We would not exist without the

support of the Diocesan Support Appeal," said Paul Kotlowski, diocesan director for youth ministry. "We are the bishop's arm that is responsible for assisting folks at the local level who are in the trenches. According to canon 231, lay persons who devote themselves permanently or temporarily to some special service of the church are obliged to acquire the appropriate formation which is required to fulfill their function properly."

"Actualizing that mandate is what we are all about," Kotlowski said. "We help ministers do their jobs conscientiously, zealously and diligently by providing them with the necessary knowledge, skills, methods and dispositions."

For example, "there might be one Catholic Church in an entire county, and in that county there might be four high schools. There may be only a half-dozen high school students in that one church," Kotlowski said. "Being able to bring youth together for vicariate, national and international events is of tremendous value to us in terms of bolstering

young people's sense of Catholic identity and pride."

Father Johnathan Hanic, parochial vicar for St. Patrick Cathedral in Charlotte, is one of the seminarians whose education was supported by DSA funds.

"It was an incredible experience," Father Hanic said of the seminary. "I had the unbelievable opportunity in life to devote myself to prayer study and to live with Christ."

Also supported by the DSA is the Office of Justice and Peace with Catholic Social Services. In turn, the Office of Justice and Peace supports the Office of Economic Opportunity in Murphy, which is creating a collaborative, community-driven effort to achieve economic justice in the counties of Cherokee, Clay, Graham and Swain.

"The DSA supports the Office of Justice and Peace as it seeks to help Catholics put their faith into action on behalf of justice," said Joe Purello, director of the Office of Justice and Peace.

"One of the reasons the DSA is so successful is that so many parishes are focusing on a spirituality of stewardship and they give back (to the diocese) with gratitude," said Gaddy.

"One of the hallmarks of teaching our Catholic faith is that Christ came to save the world, a community of believers, which means we are responsible for one another, not isolated and on our own," Kotlowski said.

"The DSA calls us into a solidarity with the bigger church: to go beyond the boundaries of our own parishes; to be a part of one church and the Diocese of Charlotte," said Gaddy.

*These and many other ministries will reap a fruitful harvest thanks to your contribution to the Diocesan Support Appeal.*



Contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans by calling (704) 370-3354 or e-mail [kaevans@charlottediocese.org](mailto:kaevans@charlottediocese.org).

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## Respect Life urges ban on human cloning

*Postcard campaign encourages senators to pass prohibition bill*

By KAREN A. EVANS  
STAFF WRITER

CHARLOTTE — U.S. Senators Sam Brownback, R-Kan., and Mary Landrieu, D-La., introduced the Brownback/Landrieu Human Cloning Prohibition Act bill, S. 245, in the Senate Jan. 29. The bill was sponsored by 24 other senators, including Sen. Elizabeth Dole, R-N.C.

S. 245 would amend the Public Health Service Act to prohibit human cloning. This prohibition would include performing or attempting to perform human cloning; participating in an attempt to perform human cloning; or shipping or receiving for any purpose an embryo produced by human cloning or any product derived from such embryo.

The Senate had declined to adopt a similar bill in 2002. Passage in the Senate continues to be a challenge.

In an effort to encourage senators to vote to approve S. 245, the National Committee for a Human Life Amendment (NCHLA) is planning to launch a postcard campaign March 29-30. The campaign will focus on the 15 states whose senators have not made clear their position, including Sen. John Edwards, D-N.C.

"It is of utmost importance that we let Sen. Edwards know our position on human cloning," said Maggi Nadol, diocesan Respect Life director.

In the campaign, postcards are distributed during or after Mass and parishioners are asked to fill out a card and donate towards postage costs. Postcards will be collected and mailed by the church.

Previous postcard campaigns focused on stopping the Freedom of Choice Act in 1993, keeping abortion out of health care reform in 1994 and enacting into law the partial-birth abortion ban act in 1996 and 1998, according to the NCHLA website.

"This is an opportunity for the Charlotte Diocese to speak with a strong, clear voice that human cloning must be banned," Nadol said.

Contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans by calling (704) 370-3354 or e-mail [kaevans@charlottediocese.org](mailto:kaevans@charlottediocese.org).

## Senate passes bill banning partial-birth abortion

By CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Catholic officials praised the U.S. Senate for its 64-33 vote to pass the Partial-Birth Abortion Ban March 13.

"This historic vote sets the ban on track to be the first federal law limiting abortion" since the 1973 Supreme Court decision *Roe vs. Wade* legalized abortion, said Cathy Cleaver, director of planning and information for the U.S. bishops' Secretariat for Pro-Life Activities.

The bill, introduced by Sen. Rick Santorum, R-Pa., passed after three days of intense debate. It prohibits doctors from committing an "overt act" designed to kill a partially delivered fetus and includes an exemption in cases where the procedure is necessary to save the life of the mother.

Opponents of the legislation, including Sen. Barbara Boxer, D-Calif., called the bill's language unconstitutional. Boxer described it as "an attempt to outlaw all abortions, to take away the rights of women to choose — not only to chip away at that right, but to take it away, and, by the way, criminalize abortions."

In a statement released after the vote, President Bush called the Senate's action "an important step to building a culture of life in America" and said he looked forward to the House passing legislation and working with the Senate to resolve any differences "so that I can sign legislation banning partial-birth abortion into law."

Cleaver said she expected the House to pass the ban quickly, and she described the Senate vote as "the beginning of the end for this cruel and dangerous procedure."

Carl Anderson, supreme knight of the Knights of Columbus, likewise said he "looked forward to passage of similar legislation in the House."

"We still have a long way to go toward building what John Paul II has called the culture of life," Anderson said, but he added that "banning partial-birth abortion is a good and necessary first step."

Barbara Garavalia, president of the National Council of Catholic Women, similarly urged Congress to "move quickly toward sending this bill to the president's desk so that the history of partial-birth abortion in America will be short-lived, a reflection of the strong and widespread opposition by America to this inhumane procedure."

Cardinal Anthony J. Bevilacqua of Philadelphia, chairman of the U.S. bishops' Committee on Pro-Life Activities, earlier had urged the Senate to approve the Partial Birth Abortion Ban Act of 2003 without amendments to weaken it.

In a March 10 letter to senators, he asked them to support the measure over a substitute proposal that was expected to be introduced. The Senate began floor debate on the bill March 10.

Similar bills have been approved by Congress twice before but were vetoed by President Clinton. A version passed by the House last year was never scheduled for consideration in the Senate, which was then controlled by Democrats.

More than half the states have enacted laws banning the procedure, and polls "consistently show" that a majority of Americans oppose it, the cardinal wrote in his letter. But in 2000 the Supreme Court struck down Nebraska's partial-birth abortion ban, raising questions about the constitutionality of other state prohibitions, the cardinal noted.

Cardinal Bevilacqua said the new measure "responds to this question of constitutionality." First, the bill narrowly defines partial-birth abortion and addresses issues raised by the Supreme Court about protecting women's health, he said.

The bill also "presents Congress' findings, based on years of testimony, that partial-birth abortion is not necessary to preserve women's health, and in fact may pose serious health risks," the cardinal added.


Opponents of the legislation argued that the particular type of abortion it addresses is sometimes medically necessary, especially when birth defects or other complications are discovered late in a pregnancy and other abortion methods are less likely to succeed.

On the Senate floor March 10, Santorum said partial-birth abortions are "never medically necessary," are "not taught in any medical school in this country" and are "not recommended." In describing the procedure, he said it is being used after the 20th week of pregnancy, and during it the fetus is partially delivered, then a pair of scissors is "thrust into the base of the skull and ... the cranial contents removed."

"Partial-birth abortion promises nothing but pain, for everyone involved," said Cleaver in her March 13 statement.

She called the Senate vote a "great success for those who have worked so hard for passage of this bill, but above all it is a victory for women and children, who bear the pain and anguish wrought by this inhumane procedure."

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# Putting faith into action

## Virginia students volunteer in Belmont

By MARY MARSHALL

CORRESPONDENT

BELMONT — Not all college students spend their spring breaks at the beach or lounging around the house.

Two students from Virginia's Radford University, along with eight students from Virginia's James Madison University, volunteered at Belmont's Holy Angels facility as they engaged in the Spring Break Adventure program March 10-14.

The students, members of their Catholic campus ministries that organized the adventure, said they came to Belmont with the same objective — to do something to help someone else.

Some were veteran volunteers, having traveled previously to Mexico, Savannah and Baltimore. For others, it was a first-time endeavor.

Spring Break Adventure places teams of college students in community service and experiential learning. While distance from the college isn't vital to the program, the environment must be different from that of a college campus. Participating students contribute to the community through hard work and gain a broader understanding of the world around them.

"This is the first year that Holy Angels has hosted the Spring Break Adventure. We hope (it) will become an annual project," said Regina Moody, president and CEO of Holy Angels, a nonprofit organization that provides services for children and adults with varying degrees of mental retardation, some of whom have physical disabilities and are medically fragile.

"Students from James Madison University and Radford University truly have given of themselves to do service projects to help us," said Moody. "We are most appreciative of their willingness to share and work for the good of Holy Angels. They are

truly an inspiration for all of us."

James Madison University students picked up shovels and picks and helped Jim Donecho, director of facilities and management information systems at Holy Angels, plant bushes and spruce up the Holy Angels' Camp Hope facility. Students unloaded bushes from a truck and carried them to the front of a new activity building recently erected on the site.

"We're digging, raking, organizing and cleaning," said Julie Gardella, a junior at the university. "I've never done anything like this before. We're putting our faith into action helping others and in return our faith is strengthened."

Senior Gayle Taylor has been on several mission trips that concentrated on helping the homeless and evangelization.

"At Holy Angels, we're able to work during the day and get to know some of the residents in the evening," said Taylor. "They join us for dinner and are so excited to be with us."

Sophomore Caitlin Radek's goal is to impact a new community. "We're landscaping, helping out with a party and getting to know the residents over pizza," she said.

Radek is a veteran volunteer who has helped build houses for the poor and elderly, and assisted in the hurricane relief project in Kinston, N.C.

Junior Matt Morrell has made two trips to Mexico where he worked with a blind child and a quadriplegic who drew with a mouthpiece.

"My goal for spring break is to find something much bigger than what we can experience on campus," said Morrell. "It's all about perspective. We're meeting people we would normally never come in contact with. It's not about changing the world but having an experience we can carry with us back to campus, our families and throughout our lives."



PHOTOS BY MARY MARSHALL

Above, Radford University student Erica Crossman dances with Holy Angels resident at a Great Adventures Club dinner and dance March 14. At right, James Madison University students Caitlin Radek and Chris Schwizer help spruce up Holy Angels' Camp Hope facility.

Erica Crossman, a fashion design major in her junior year at Radford University, came to Holy Angels with an open mind — she had no preconceived notions, which she believed would make for a greater experience.

"My only goal was to deepen my faith, which I achieved the first of the week," she said. "The rest of the week was a bonus."

Crossman ventured beyond Holy Angels' facility to House of Mercy, a residential care facility established by the Sisters of Mercy for persons living with AIDS.

"I became attached to the AIDS patients and returned each day to visit them," said Crossman. "It was hard for me to realize that if I return next year, some of them won't be there."

"We're cleaning storage areas, organizing game closets and interacting with the residents," said Trina Askin, a Radford University junior majoring in English. "We're living with four Down syndrome patients, all over the age of 21. It's an environment we're not accustomed to."

It's all about perspective, said Askin. "In reality, we're the ones that



are different. They're delighted that we share dinner with them and view their photo albums. As we play games, we totally forget their disabilities. It's a great interacting experience."

Both Crossman and Askin admired the residents' innocence and they experienced personal growth while adjusting to the capabilities of the residents, realizing and understanding their limits.

Crossman and Askin said they were amazed at the dedication of the staff at Holy Angels.

"It's their life, not just a job," said Crossman. "All the residents are so happy here. The residents grow up normal in their own surroundings. There's total acceptance here; no one feels different."

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No shenanigans here



PHOTO BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

Helen Gassen and Jeanmarie Schuler help a customer at their LAOH booth in the St. Patrick Day festival March 15.

# LAOH keeps Irish heritage alive

By KEVIN E. MURRAY  
ACTING EDITOR

CHARLOTTE — On St. Patrick's Day, it's said everybody's Irish. For the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, being Irish is a full-time pursuit.

"Most of us come from similar backgrounds," said Jeanmarie Schuler, membership chair and former vice president of the LAOH's St. Brigid Division 1, based in Charlotte.

"It's nice to belong to a group in which you can talk about your faith, especially in the South," said Schuler. "After living here for 25 years and unable to make a good connection with my faith and my heritage, this group is a great thing for me."

The LAOH, a non-profit organization comprised of Catholic women of Irish descent, was founded in Omaha, Neb., in 1884 as the Daughters of Erin to protect young immigrant Irish girls. The group officially became the LAOH in 1984.

Celebrating their Irish Catholic heritage is paramount for many members of the St. Brigid division, said Schuler.

"Keeping our heritage alive for the next generation is important to us," she said.

Schuler was one of 15 women who founded the state's first LAOH division in June 1998, when they met at St. John Neumann Church. Under the motto "Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity," members have since helped found other divisions in Greensboro and Wilmington.

Now meeting at St. Gabriel Church, the St. Brigid Division has over 30 members ranging in age from early 30s to 80, from around Charlotte, Huntersville, Mint Hill and Rock Hill, S.C.

"We chose St. Brigid as our patron saint because we felt she was a good role model," said Schuler of the other Irish saint whose feast day is Feb. 1.

Born in 453, St. Brigid founded a "double monastery" that attracted both men and women devotees, according to Catholic News Service. It became a center for art and philosophy. Her counsel was sought by bishop and commoner alike.

"She was quite a woman," said Schuler. "To do that in those days was quite extraordinary."

The St. Brigid division marched in Charlotte's 2001 St. Patrick's Day Parade under its own banner for the first time since the group's inception, and has continued to march each year to celebrate the life of St. Patrick. The group also runs a booth at the Irish festival after the parade; the money raised goes to Catholic charities.

Other division activities include: celebrating the feast of St. Brigid with a special Mass at St. Gabriel; sponsoring a trophy to a local Irish dancing school to promote continued teaching of Irish culture through dance; and volunteering time, items and funds to area projects such as Room at the Inn and Catherine's House, both sanctuaries for single mothers and their babies.

The national LAOH has funded a chair at the University of Notre Dame for the study of the history of the Catholic Church in the United States and the Irish contribution to that history. The organization also donated to the Valley Forge Freedom Foundation for a monument honoring the Irish soldiers who fought in the Civil War. Donations have been given for a monument in Washington, D.C. to the nuns of the battlefield, and an altar honoring St. Brigid was donated to the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington.

Members must be practicing Catholic women of Irish descent or the wife or mother of a Hibernian. For more information about St. Brigid Division 1, visit <http://www.laoh-charlotte.catholicweb.com>.

# St. Patrick's Day, Charlotte style

CHARLOTTE — Diocese of Charlotte schools and other groups were among the 60 groups that marched in the seventh annual St. Patrick's Day Parade on March 15. An estimated 15,000 spectators lined Tryon Street.





# Catholic organizations St. Patrick's Day Parade to enjoy the parade.



## OLM, from page 1

nurse's room, no math room for the upper grades, no faculty room to hold the entire faculty."

"The science lab opens up a whole new horizon for the students as far as science is concerned," said Kae Mattingly, science teacher for the middle school students. "Science needs to be hands-on. Now they have the facility to do that."

"We've been cramped for space for some time. Now everything's in place and that's why we're excited," she said. "The students love it; there's a tremendous sense of pride."

"I think the students were a little intimidated at first," said Sister of St. Joseph Geri Rogers, assistant principal, "but they came to love the new building."

"The new building for Our Lady of Mercy is wonderful," said student Bradley Kenney. "I like it because it's smaller than a public school and you have a better relationship with your class and your teacher."

With 273 students currently enrolled in the kindergarten through eighth-grade school, the new space opens up many possibilities for future growth, said McMonagle.

"It's making sure the Catholic community has a place to go to school," she said. "Each year, we hope to add new classes."

### A unified effort

The entire school — everything from furniture to people — transferred from the old location to the new one in

only a few days.

"We closed the school Thursday evening, took Friday off and we were in full swing on Monday in the new building," said McMonagle. "It was fabulous."

While professional movers were employed to transport larger items, the secret to the move's success, said McMonagle, was the dedication and cooperation of the parents.

"They organized the move, worked with the teachers and myself, and helped put a plan together," she said. "They were absolutely dedicated to making the move as easy as possible, and it worked beautifully."

"They worked all day Friday and Saturday, they carried computers, they set up classrooms, they cleaned and filed," said Sister Geri.

"Without the parents, it couldn't have been done," said Mattingly.

### School-wide pride

"We are at a bigger school building now, but the building does not make OLM a better school — even though the building is nice," said eighth-grader Kristin Carison. "Our Lady of Mercy is like a big community — we cry and comfort each other at sad times and we laugh at joyful times."

"Our Lady of Mercy School has a great sense of community," said eighth-grader T.J. McClurg.

"My whole family feels welcome here," said Missy Wheaton, school secretary and a non-Catholic parent with one student in the school. "It's the best school our daughter has ever been in, and we plan to keep her in

Catholic education through Bishop McGuinness High School."

"Our Lady of Mercy has a very giving spirit," said Sister Geri. "Our priests are very involved with our students. Our parish staff is very much involved in the school. And the parents are extremely cooperative. They volunteer for so many things."

"I've never been in a school where parent involvement has been so extensive — it's truly incredible the way the parents pull together and get things done," said Wheaton. "I've never seen anything like it."

"The parents make our jobs easier," said Mattingly, science teacher.

Many parents said they worked so hard on the move — and continue to work as volunteers at the school — to give something back to the staff.

"It's what they teach our kids — kindness, compassion and love; and the students get a great academic education. There's nowhere else I'd want my children to go," said Barbara Crews, a parent volunteer with two children in the school.

"It's one giant family here," said Holley Hynes, a parent volunteer also with two children in school. "I volunteer to be closer to my kids, and to help keep going what's going on here."

"There's a spirit here you can feel in your heart," said Joy Cunningham, parent of one student. "It's still the same great Mercy spirit that we had in the old school."

Contact Acting Editor Kevin E. Murray by calling (704) 370-3334 or e-mail kemurray@charlottediocese.org.



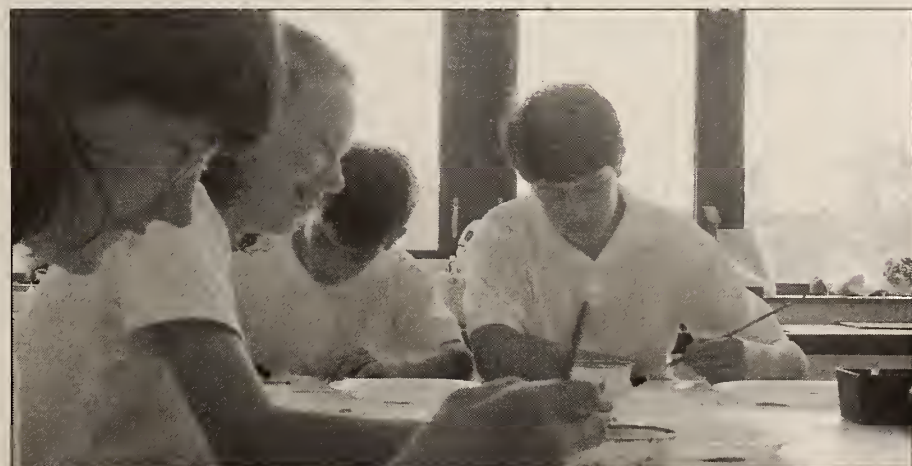
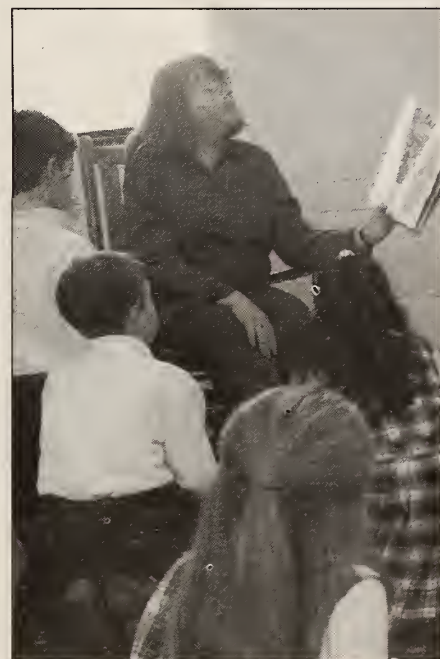
PHOTOS BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

Top left, St. Ann's School; top right, All Saints School; left, Knights of Columbus lead the parade; above, St. Gabriel's Men's Club; below, Charlotte Catholic High School.



PHOTOS BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

Above left, Janet Tennyson instructs Our Lady of Mercy School first-graders on their laptop computers. Above right, media specialist Janice Safrit reads to first-graders in the library. Right, seventh-graders express themselves in the school's art room.





## Book Review

# A Bible handbook, a biography and lessons on love

REVIEWED BY MITCH FINLEY  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

There are many excellent Bible reference and study resources for anyone who wants a Catholic perspective, but few of them can measure up to "The Essential Bible Handbook: A Guide for Catholics" when it comes to being both complete and concise. In one small volume you get not only the basic information you need to read the Scriptures without abandoning either your intellect or your soul. You also get information that relates the Bible to the sacraments and suggestions for praying with Scripture.

You even get several Scripture prayer services keyed to the liturgical seasons and themes such as forgiveness, death and discernment. Another section helps you to pray with major personalities of the Bible, and yet another provides a scriptural rosary. Finally, you get a glossary of biblical terms and a list of references and resources.

The Bible-study sections of the book give you virtually all the information the average person would ever want about both the Hebrew and Christian Scriptures (Old and New Testaments). Father Santa's explanations of the important historical and cultural information you need in order to read the Bible with your brain in gear are clear and devoid of technical jargon.

St. Jerome, the first of the early church's Scripture scholars, once said that if you're ignorant of Scripture you're ignorant of Christ. Anyone who reads this small volume need have no concern about being ignorant of Scripture.

One of the most important and influential English-speaking Catholics of the 20th century, Hilaire Belloc, was born in France in 1870. Poet, essayist, satirist, and historian, he wrote from the Roman Catholic viewpoint. Among his more than 150 books are the very funny verses of "The Bad Child's Book of Beasts" and "Cautionary Tales for Children," as well as more serious works such as "The Path to Rome." He was friends with the other great English Catholic apologist, G.K. Chesterton, and with him founded the New Witness, a weekly political newspaper.

This new biography, "Old Thunder: A Life of Hilaire Belloc," tells you Belloc's story in an informative and captivating manner. The title of the book is Belloc's mother's affectionate nickname for him, a reference to a terrific thunderstorm that occurred at the time of his birth.

Belloc's mother converted to Catholicism following a conversation with Henry Manning, the future cardinal-archbishop of Westminster, and Belloc became, himself, a dedicated de-

fender of and apologist for the Catholic faith. Fleeing war in France six weeks after Hilaire's birth, his parents returned to his mother's home in England. Then, when the boy was 2 years old, his father died at the age of 42. Belloc became a British subject in 1902, and from 1906 to 1910 was a Liberal member of Parliament.

Pearce, writer-in-residence at Ave Maria College in Ypsilanti, Mich., leads the reader on a fascinating tour through

Belloc's childhood and into a life that included soldiering, friendship with Chesterton, marriage, deaths of two sons in wars, government service, an old age that was as filled with dignity and wit as it was with faith, and along the way a lifelong

dedication as an apologist for Catholicism. Belloc died in 1953.

Plow through the plethora of sappy little books on "love" and you'll find only more of them. "The Book of Love: A Treasury Inspired by the Greatest of Virtues" is not like the countless books on "love" that give you little more than superficially romantic stuff. This book really will teach you about the truth of love — the kind of love that is hard as nails, even when it's romantic.

The brother-and-sister team of Father Greeley and Durkin launch their anthology/commentary on love by reminding us that God is love — therefore, this is no plaything of a book. It's about a serious topic — even when it laughs with joy.

The co-authors maintain Father Greeley's affection for using feminine references for God, even though Scripture never refers to God as "she," "her," or "mother." Still, there is plenty of poetic support for it, and it's good for the imagination to move beyond the images set by conventional boundaries. For God is, if nothing else, far greater than our metaphors.

"The Book of Love" celebrates love from 12 perspectives, including "Family Love," "Falling in Love/Young Love," "Married Love," "Friendship," "Senior Love," "Love of Nature" and "Love: The Divine/Human Encounter." In each case you get insightful quotations from writers of poetry and fiction. In each case, too, Father Greeley and Durkin add their commentary — and in all cases their thoughts shed light and evoke understanding.

This is no ordinary book on love. It's a great book on love. It will make an excellent wedding or anniversary gift. It will make excellent reading no matter what the situation, because who ever knows enough about love?

Finley is the author of numerous books, most recently "What Faith Is Not" (Sheed & Ward).



## Word to Life

Sunday Scripture  
Readings: March 23, 2003

March 23, Third Sunday  
of Lent

### Cycle B Readings:

- 1) Exodus 20:1-17  
Psalm 19:8-11
- 2) 1 Corinthians 1:22-25
- 3) Gospel: John 2:13-25

BY JEFF HENSLEY  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

I just finished reading a long, autobiographical essay by George Orwell (author of "Animal Farm" and "1984") dealing largely with his maltreatment growing up in a boarding school that at least pretended to be Christian.

Orwell, having experienced only a distant, unreachable theology and failing to see any lived Christianity among those who surrounded him, abandoned faith. Pity.

When the rules — especially the misinterpreted rules of the Christian faith — are all we see, it's hard for us to see the loving Person behind the rules and his intent.

Many years ago when I was a prayer-group leader, I once gave a brief teaching on the Ten Commandments, pointing out that they were offered us for our good by the One who knows us best. I am still surprised many years later to have found that

this was a surprise to some who spoke to me afterward.

But if we begin with the idea of a loving Father offering us a way of life that, yes, has rules, but rules to help us live happily and at peace, we have the right picture. And if we have examples of happy, loving people around us who are both talking and living a good game in living out their Christianity, then the lines in today's psalm will make sense to us:

"The law of the Lord is perfect, refreshing the soul; the decree of the Lord is trustworthy, giving wisdom to the simple.... The ordinances of the Lord are true, all of them just; they are more precious than gold, than a heap of purest gold; sweeter also than syrup or honey from the comb."

It makes quite a difference if you start from believing in the love of a personal God who cared enough to send his Son to redeem us from sin and then go to the law rather than beginning with the part of the law we find most objectionable — or most misinterpreted or most used to batter and mistreat us by foolish people — and try to figure it out from there. Sorry, George. I truly am sorry.

### Question:

Have you experienced your obedience to the laws of God as a way he has expressed his love for you, saving you from actions you would have regretted greatly?

## Weekly Scripture

### Scripture for the week of March 23 - March 29

Sunday (Third Sunday of Lent), Exodus 20:1-17, 1 Corinthians 1:22-25, John 2:13-25; Monday (Lenten Weekday), 2 Kings 5:1-15, Luke 4:24-30; Tuesday (Annunciation of the Lord), Isaiah 7:10-14; 8:10, Hebrews 10:4-10, Luke 1:26-38; Wednesday (Lenten Weekday), Deuteronomy 4:1, 5-9, Matthew 5:17-19; Thursday (Lenten Weekday), Jeremiah 7:23-28, Luke 11:14-23; Friday (Lenten Weekday), Hosea 14:2-10, Mark 12:28-34; Saturday (Lenten Weekday), Hosea 6:1-6, Luke 18:9-14

### Scripture for the week of March 30 - April 5

Sunday (Fourth Sunday of Lent), 2 Chronicles 36:14-16, 19-23, Ephesians 2:4-10, John 3:14-21; Monday (Lenten Weekday), Isaiah 65:17-21, John 4:43-54; Tuesday (Lenten Weekday), Ezekiel 47:1-9, 12, John 5:1-3, 5-16; Wednesday (Lenten Weekday), Isaiah 49:8-15, John 5:17-30; Thursday (Lenten Weekday), Exodus 32:7-14, John 5:31-47; Friday (Lenten Weekday), Wisdom 2:1, 12-22, John 7:1-2, 10, 25-30; Saturday (Lenten Weekday), Jeremiah 11:18-20, John 7:40-53

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# This ‘Bread’ is mostly sweet

**By ANNE NAVARRO**  
**CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE**

NEW YORK — The pleasant romance “The Bread, My Sweet” (Panorama) is a likable story in which an Italian-American businessman tries to grant the wish of his dying elderly neighbor.

The story’s intentions are good and the film has many endearing moments that pull on the heartstrings. It also makes a beautiful statement about seeking out and appreciating the goodness in others and doing selfless acts, even if they seem silly.

The disappointment is that the predictable story and stereotypical characterizations hold it back from being truly moving. Also, there is a surprising amount of coarse language and profanity for a film that has such a sentimental heart.

At the center of the story set in Pittsburgh is Dominic (Scott Baio of “Happy Days” fame), a mergers-and-acquisitions executive torn between his professional ambitions and his love of baking. Somehow, Domi, as he is known affectionately, finds time to run a bakery previously owned by an elderly couple, Bella (Rosemary Prinz) and her grouchy husband, Massimo (John Seitz), who

live upstairs. In the kitchen with Domi are his two brothers, Eddie (Billy Mott), a ladies’ man and aspiring actor, and Pino (Schuler Hensley), a genius with pies but slow in every other respect.

When Bella confides in Domi that she is dying, he impulsively decides to marry her prodigal daughter Lucca (Kristin Minter). But first he must find Lucca, bring her back home and convince her to give her mother the American wedding she has dreamed of for her daughter since the day she was born. The story from here on out is about what one would expect from this lightweight confection.

Written and directed by Melissa Martin, the film is a bit contrived. Nonetheless, “The Bread, My Sweet” is refreshing in that it isn’t afraid to show its heart on its sleeve.

Because of a sexual encounter, intermittent coarse language and profanity, the USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-III — adults. Not rated by the Motion Picture Association of America.

*Navarro is on the staff of the Office for Film & Broadcasting of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.*

## Movie Capsules

NEW YORK (CNS) — *The following are capsule reviews of movies recently reviewed by the Office for Film & Broadcasting of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.*

**“The Hunted” (Paramount)**

Brutal drama in which a retired teacher of warfare (Tommy Lee Jones) must prevent his former student (Benicio Del Toro), a top Special Forces assassin gone mad, from killing innocent people. Director William Friedkin deftly builds white-knuckle tension in this straightforward tale while coaxing a fine performance out of Jones, but the film’s excessive carnage and viciousness cannot be justified. Much savage violence and sporadic rough language. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is O — morally offensive. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is R — restricted.

**“Spider” (Sony Pictures Classics)**

Bleak psychological drama about a mentally ill man (Ralph Fiennes) living in a decrepit London halfway house who struggles to discover the dreadful truth about the death of his mother (Miranda Richardson) as his frail mental state declines. Director David Cronenberg spins

together muddled childhood memories in a disturbed adult mind in this stark film with a chilling ending, but the deliberate, grinding pace grows wearisome. A few sexual situations, brief violence, fleeting nudity and a few instances of rough language. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-III — adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is R — restricted.

**“Willard” (New Line Cinema)**

Grisly horror-comedy about a misfit (Crispin Glover), oppressed by a harridan mother and overbearing boss, who befriends an ever-growing army of rats in his basement. Glen Morgan’s remake of the 1971 B-movie camps it up with over-the-top performances from Glover and his oppressors; the result, though decidedly not for all tastes, effectively works on the audiences’ nerves where so many horror films deliver only gross-outs. Some grisly violence and menace, a depiction of a character viewing online pornography, an allusion to autoeroticism, occasional profanity and an instance of rough language. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-IV — adults, with reservations. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13 — parents are strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.

# ‘Piglet’s Big Movie’ is big fun



CNS PHOTO COURTESY OF BUENA VISTA PICTURES

Piglet and Winnie the Pooh sit on a log to think in the Walt Disney film “Piglet’s Big Movie,” a sweet animated adventure that is bright, colorful and offers the endearing lesson that even a small person can make a big difference. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-I — general patronage. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is G — general audiences.

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## The Pope Speaks

POPE JOHN PAUL II

### As U.S. attack nears, pope prays for those 'threatened by war'

By JOHN NORTON  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — In the final hours of a U.S. countdown to military strikes against Iraq, Pope John Paul II offered an impassioned prayer for the populations who are "threatened by war."

The pope made his remarks during the weekly general audience March 19, the deadline of a U.S. ultimatum to Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and his sons to leave Iraq or face war. The day also marked the feast of St. Joseph, patron of the universal church.

His voice shaking with emotion, the 82-year-old pontiff prayed that St. Joseph, "man of peace that he was, obtain for all humanity, especially for the peoples threatened in these hours by war, the precious gift of harmony and peace."

The pope repeated the phrase twice with increasing intensity in Italian and again in English during a summary of his remarks to English-speaking pilgrims.

About 12,000 people were gathered in a sunny and breezy St. Peter's Square for the audience, the first held outdoors this year. Among them was a pilgrimage group carrying a "torch of peace" from New Norcia, Australia, to the Italian town of Norcia.

The pope told the group, headed by an Italian archbishop, that he hoped their initiative "will contribute in these hours of trepidation for peace to reviving in people a decisive desire for harmony and reconciliation."

Following the U.S. ultimatum to the Iraqi leader, the Vatican issued a statement March 18 warning that those who give up on peaceful solutions available under international law will have to answer for the decision to God, their consciences and history.

Archbishop Renato Martino, head of the Vatican's justice and peace office, said the United States "has committed a big mistake" in abandoning U.N. diplomacy and moving toward war.

"We are at risk of a blaze that could spread across the Middle East, sowing hatred and enmity against Western civilization, perceived as an invading force," he told the Italian daily La Repubblica.

Meanwhile, U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell said he spoke with the Vatican foreign minister, Archbishop Jean-Louis Tauran, March 18 and told him, "We understand the pope's concern."

"We understand the Holy Father's concern, but sometimes issues come before us that cannot be avoided ... and we firmly believe this is one such issue," Powell told reporters from international news agencies, according to a transcript on the State Department's Web site.

"There are many cases in history where when people were reluctant to take the necessary military steps — the use of force — it was regretted later," he said.

Powell said Saddam — not the United States — was responsible for bringing on war by his failure to accept the peaceful solution of complying fully with U.N. disarmament resolutions.

### Catholic Church supports death penalty moratorium

The topic of a death penalty moratorium received renewed notice in the media earlier this year as Governor Ryan of Illinois granted clemency to all on death row in his state. That several death row inmates had been proven to be innocent was enough reason for the governor to question the fairness of the death penalty process. Even those who favor the use of capital punishment have been shocked that over 100 innocent people have been released from death row across our nation in recent years after new evidence exonerated them. The execution of even one innocent person would stand as a tragic perversion of a system that is supposed to seek justice.

"Increasing reliance on the death penalty diminishes us and is a sign of growing disrespect for human life." (U.S. Bishops pastoral letter Responsibility, Rehabilitation and Restoration, 2000) Faith leaders across the nation, realizing the support the death penalty retains within the public square, have been working and praying for a conversion of hearts and minds on this issue. Criminals must answer to society for the wrong they do, yet state-sanctioned violence upon these evildoers, once they are safely in custody and separated from society, is not the way to justice. Pope John Paul II has spoken of the "unnecessary recourse to the death penalty [in America] when other bloodless means are sufficient to defend human lives against an aggressor and to protect public order and the safety of persons" (Ecclesia in America, 1999).

Our state ranks fifth in the nation in the application of the death penalty. A moratorium would involve appointing a commission of learned and experienced individuals who would study the death penalty system. Let us challenge our public officials to critically review how we, as a society, treat those who have been arrested, charged with serious crimes and condemned to death. If you believe that the death penalty system needs a closer look, I encourage you to contact your state legislator and ask his or her support for a moratorium. Even death penalty supporters do not want the innocent executed. A moratorium is a first step to ensuring that horrendous miscarriages of justice do

## Guest Column



JOE PURELLO  
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF JUSTICE  
AND PEACE, CSS

not take place.

The use of a punishment that is irrevocable, that has far too often been applied in a racially biased manner, that continues to target almost exclusively poor people, and that may have led to the killing of innocent people, must be seriously questioned before it is further applied.

One of the church's primary concerns about the death penalty is that it may cut short a sinner's path to redemption (Revised Catechism, sec. 2267, 1997). We rejoice in the Gospel of Luke when the prisoner crucified next to Jesus is given Paradise; as the Body of Christ, we should desire and pray that all have the chance to rejoice eternally in Christ's mercy and love.

Let us pray for the victims of violence and their families, and continue to seek avenues that lead victims to some measure of recompense and peace. Especially during Lent, as we reflect on the Lord's suffering at Golgotha, let us also remember in prayer those who suffer in prison (and we know they exist) who are innocent of wrongdoing. Such men and women are walking the same road as Jesus who, though innocent of any crime, was imprisoned, falsely charged, and then executed by the authority of the state.

*For information on how you can support a moratorium on executions in North Carolina, contact the Office of Justice and Peace at (704) 370-3231 or [justicepeace@charlottediocese.org](mailto:justicepeace@charlottediocese.org).*

## Letters to the Editor

### A thank you

Did you ever attend an event and think to yourself, "This is really a lot of fun, I wish others were here to see it first hand?" Well, a few nights ago, on March 4, a fundraiser for two local non-profit organizations — Host Homes and Youth Empowerment Support Services (Y.E.S.S.) — was held at the Bishop McGuinness High School gym that was just such an event ("Ambassadors take to court to help youth," Feb. 28).

This basketball game featured the Harlem Ambassadors playing a team of local stars. Our "Challengers" included two judges, along with a variety of talented and generous men and women who gave of their time and resources to make the evening a great success.

The Harlem Ambassadors, led by Ms. Lade Majic, put on an amazing display of basketball talent. They engaged the audience of more than 600 with routines that included funky dancing, high-flying slam dunks and others that every kid in the audience from 8 to 80 enjoyed thoroughly. It was great fun to see teenagers, who have seen it all, to senior citizens, who really have seen it all, laughing together for 3 solid hours.

This letter is to thank Directors Mable Stevenson of Host Homes and Jeff Jones of Y.E.S.S. for their leadership in pulling this evening together. More importantly, we can all be proud of the great turnout of friends and neighbors along with the generous support of the many businesses across Forsyth County who helped make the evening a financial success for Host Homes and Y.E.S.S. This allows both agencies to fur-

ther their services to youth and families in the Winston-Salem community.

Thanks to everyone involved.

Gerald Finley  
Chairman, Host Homes Advisory Board

### Letters to the Editor

*The Catholic News & Herald welcomes letters from readers. We ask that letters be originals of 250 words or less.*

*To be considered for publication, each letter must include the address and phone number of the writer for purposes of verification. Letters may be condensed due to space limitations and edited for clarity, style and taste.*

*Send letters to Letters to the Editor, The Catholic News & Herald, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte N.C. 28237, or e-mail [catholicnews@charlottediocese.org](mailto:catholicnews@charlottediocese.org).*



## Light One Candle

MSGR. JIM LISANTE  
GUEST COLUMNIST

### Banishing anger

Look around the globe. Wars or the threat of war can be found everywhere. Sometimes the causes are related to politics; at other times to ethnicity; still others focus on religious differences. Economics, the battle between haves and have nots, is also a central site of conflict. But fueling so much of the division and conflict is anger — the human energy that turns disagreement into the explosive force of hatred.

So let me share with you a beautiful story of anger transformed. My seminary classmate Richie was an extraordinary man — someone universally loved because he was direct, filled with simple goodness and kindness. We were ordained together and then assigned to different parishes. Like most new priests, we quickly overextended ourselves, too busy to get together as often as we should have. Early in his ministry, Richie was asked to take a summer assignment on an island off the coast. The people in that small holiday community loved him, too. He was immediately accepted and appreciated.

One day, Richie awoke with a pain in his side that wouldn't go away and became worse with each passing hour. A smart parishioner correctly sized up the difficulty as a bad case of appendicitis. In fact, his appendix had already burst. With little time to spare, Richie was helicoptered to a local hospital, some ten miles away. There, doctors ordered a blood transfusion. Between surgery and new blood, Richie was back to normal in a matter a several

days. Or at least he seemed to be.

Fast forward now to four years later. Richie is no longer well. In fact, he's facing an incurable disease. You see, Richie's appendix burst in the early 1980s. And blood was, as yet, unscreened for the HIV/AIDS virus. That life-giving transfusion had been, in fact, a death sentence for this dynamic young priest.

Our paths crossed again in those dark months as the local bishop with whom I shared residence decided that Richie could get the best care living in our home which was also just minutes from a fine Catholic hospital. Richie still had the same kind nature, but just below the surface, there was an anger that would not leave. Is it right or fair of God, he wondered, to take a healthy man dedicated to ministry and saddle him with a killer disease? No one, Richie knew, deserves illness or death, but this was particularly unjust. "All I wanted to do was help people. How does getting this disease make any sense?"

Another local bishop, perhaps recognizing that Richie was becoming increasingly angry, decided to give him a special gift. The bishop arranged for Richie to travel to the Shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes in France, where many believe that Mary, the Mother of God, appeared to a young peasant woman named Bernadette. With renewed hope for his physical well-being, Richie agreed to go. Arriving in Lourdes, he entered the pool of water considered blessed. He came back a different man. No, Lourdes didn't take away the AIDS virus. But something holy happened. You could see it in the peace written on his face. You could feel it in his serene demeanor. Somewhere, the anger had disappeared. Richie had been "cured."

The Lourdes visit happened in October. Richie lasted until the following February 11, when he died surrounded by his praying family. He passed into eternal life on the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes.

So often, we pray for peace. Maybe we should start by praying for an end to unjust anger. I've come to believe that God can transform the human heart and mind. He can quell the anger that causes so much human misery and pain. And a world without anger, I suspect, will be a world in which we all can live in peace.

### Where did votive candles originate?

*Q. When and where did the custom of lighting personal candles in church originate? What is the religious significance? Some churches have them available; some, like my own, do not. Is there an official church position about this? (Louisiana)*

A. It will help first to discuss briefly why candles are used at all in Christian worship and prayer. It's in this context that we can see the role votive lights have in Christian devotion.

For the most part, Christian use of candles was derived from the Romans, who used them on a variety of civic and religious occasions, and from Jewish worship in which lamps often played an important role.

The practice is, however, part of a much larger human tradition. The natural symbolism of light has been recognized by nearly every religion in human history. Ages ago, pagan peoples lit lamps over tombs, probably expressing some sort of continued existence for the deceased.

Light, especially a living flame, signified life, hope, joy, divinity, courage — in other words, nearly everything human beings consider good and beautiful.

Some of this may be sensed from the fact that the Lucernarium, the ceremonial candle early Christians lit for Vespers (named after the evening star Vesper), developed into our paschal candle. These lights were burned for funeral ceremonies, before the tombs of deceased Christians and before images of martyrs and other saints.

They symbolized then what they still do for us: light (Christ), life, hope, resurrection and faith.

Another ancient and nearly universal pre-Christian religious practice was the giving of votive offerings, from the Latin word "votum" (promise or desire). Sculptured legs or hands, or sometimes animals, were placed in pagan Greek or Roman temples expressing thanks or petition for cures of diseases or deformities, much as crutches are left today in Lourdes and other Catholic shrines of healing.

## Question Corner

FATHER JOHN DIETZEN  
CNS COLUMNIST



The Old Testament, particularly the psalms, refers to offerings made in the temple, either to ask a favor of God or to respond to a promise made if a favor was granted. In Psalm 56, for example, the writer prays, "I am bound, O God, by vows to you, your thank offerings I will fulfill."

With the background of this tradition, and since they symbolize Christian sentiments about light, candles also came to be used as votive offerings. In offering the living fire of the candle, Christian faithful express their prayers of thanks, petition or praise to God.

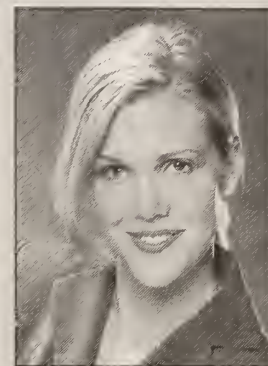
While lighting votive candles is a well-established and authentic Catholic form of prayer, their presence or use is not obligatory for individual persons or churches.

*A free brochure answering questions Catholics ask about the sacrament of penance is available by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope to Father John Dietzen, Box 325, Peoria, IL 61651.*

*Questions may be sent to Father Dietzen at the same address, or e-mail: [jjdietzen@aol.com](mailto:jjdietzen@aol.com).*

## Our Turn

THERESE J.  
BORCHARD  
CNS COLUMNIST



### Four secrets of marriage

For the first half of my young adult life I feared romantic relationships because I had no road map to follow. My parents' screaming fests — before and after their hostile divorce — loomed inside my faded memory as I began to date boys in high school and college.

I had no intention of marrying. I envisioned living my adult years as a missionary in India, a Mother Teresa type. So when love entered my life, I told it to go away. He didn't listen.

Eric was the only guy who stuck around longer than my goldfish. Going on seven years, I am amazed I have been able to share house, car, child and life with the same person without losing my sanity, health or bad habits.

For marriage operating instructions, my husband and I rely on experts, happily married folks who have been at the game awhile, since we both emerged from very broken families.

One such marriage I hold in high esteem is that of my writing partner, Mike Leach, with whom I edited "I Like Being Married" (Doubleday, 2002) and his wife, Vickie.

Considering our country is inching its way out of a 43 percent divorce rate, young adults are in desperate need of Mikes and Vickies to show how it's done. Here are four secrets — the Four F's — Mike shared with me:

**Friendship:** "Chains do not hold a marriage together," says Simone Signoret. "It's threads, hundreds of tiny threads, which sew people together through the years." A good marriage, Mike contends, is "a blanket of friendship that gives comfort, assurance and impulse to say three of the most powerful sentences possible: 'I love you,' 'Thank you' and 'I do.'"

**Familiarity:** "Some say familiarity breeds contempt," writes Mike in our book on marriage. "I have learned that it breeds content. Familiarity is knowing someone so well that you both say the same surprising things at the same time and feel the love in the laughter that follows."

**Forgiveness:** "People ask me what advice I have for a married couple struggling in their relationship," Mother Teresa once said. "I always answer: Pray and forgive."

**"Without forgiveness,"** Marianne Williamson writes in "Illuminata" (Random House, 1994), "love has no meaning. It has no fullness or maturity. Only when two people have shown each other the worst side of our natures are we truly ready for the task of love."

**Fidelity:** According to Mike, being faithful means more than resisting the urge to bat your eyelids at the cute waiter when your husband takes a bathroom break or doing far worse. It's also about being there, day in and day out, for someone you love. "It is wonderful to get a bouquet of flowers from my husband, but it means even more when he gets me aspirin for my cramps," explains novelist Elizabeth Berg in Parents magazine.

Friendship, familiarity, forgiveness and fidelity are the four points that a mentor and friend, happily married for more than three decades, generously passed on to guide my husband and me on our journey together.



## SCHOOL PLAN, from page 1

neighborhoods. Each school is to coordinate responses with local emergency preparedness teams, such as police and fire departments and chapters of the American Red Cross.

St. Ann School's proximity to Charlotte-Douglas airport prompted a meeting with police officials to establish evacuation routes in the event of an airport emergency.

The overall response planning is similar to how Catholic schools across the country are preparing for emergencies situations.

"There is no question Catholic schools have a heightened awareness" of safety issues, said Daniel Curtin, executive director of the National Catholic Educational Association's department of chief administrators.

Curtin said many diocesan school officials have called him over the past few months wondering if his office could provide guidelines for how schools should respond to a possible terrorist attack.

Overall guidelines were difficult, he said, because every state jurisdiction was different, so Curtin advises school officials to be in touch with their state and local officials. He also makes sure Catholic school superintendents are aware of the Web site launched March 7 by the U.S. Department of Education, [www.ed.gov/emergencyplan](http://www.ed.gov/emergencyplan), which includes advice on how schools can best prepare for an emergency.

The Diocese of Charlotte school plans were a joint effort on behalf of the diocesan school board, MACS school board, diocesan principals and school staff, and the American Red Cross.

"We submitted the plan to Joe Becker, the executive director of the Charlotte chapter of the Red Cross," said Cherry. "He looked at our plan as a Red Cross official and as a parent and made recommendations. It was good to have his input."

Cherry said Becker was pleased with the finalized version of the diocesan plan,

which was recently sent to parents with children in diocesan schools and posted on the Diocese of Charlotte Web site, [www.charlottediocese.org](http://www.charlottediocese.org). Individual school plans should soon be sent to parents, she said.

Although input from the Red Cross indicated few instances in which students would be confined inside a school for more than a few hours, the emergency plans have contingencies for short- and long-term occupancies.

"It's critical to have a plan in case anything happens," said Sandra McMonagle, principal of Our Lady of Mercy School in Winston-Salem. "It's up to the adults to prepare and keep the children calm. They have enough to worry about in their lives."

The plans also call for some schools to prepare to be utilized as public emergency shelters.

"If an emergency situation occurs day or night, expected or not expected, our schools will be prepared to provide a safe environment for our students," said Cherry.

### The emergency situation plan calls on schools to include the following:

— Items on hand for each teacher/staff member responsible for students: flashlights and batteries; first aid kits; battery-operated radios.

— Items on hand in the building: cell phones programmed with the same emergency numbers; walkie-talkies, pagers or cell phones for communicating; moist towelettes or washcloths; plastic garbage bags; paper products such as towels; bottled water; and non-perishable food.

— Protocols for parents to pick up children.

— Situation updates published online.

— A copy of each school plan distributed to all school staff and parents, as well as to the diocesan schools office.

— A designated "head contact" who will make decisions at the school for all emergencies.

## Parishioners for Peace



COURTESY PHOTO

Parishioners of St. Ann Church in Charlotte stand up for peace March 16. About 30 advocates held signs with "Peace" written in different languages for drivers along Park Rd. to see.

## Classifieds

### EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

**ACCOUNTANT/BOOKKEEPER:** General Ledger, payroll, payables, budgets and statements for church, school, chapel. Quick Books experience a plus. Mail resume and salary requirements to Business Manager, Our Lady of Mercy, 1918 South Main, Winston-Salem, 27127.

**SALES REP:** Trinity Road, a national distributor of Catholic books, gifts and apparel, is seeking a sales representative to market Faith Threads, its parish and school apparel fundraising program. The sales representative will schedule Faith Threads events by contacting parishes and schools via phone or by appointment. Applicants should have a demonstrated record of seeking and developing new business. Experience in fundraising is a plus. Salary is commission based. Interested individuals should fax their resume to Nicole at (803) 396-5332.

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## DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRY

**St. Leo the Great Catholic Church located in beautiful Winston-Salem** is searching for a youth minister to continue an established Life Teen program centered on the Eucharist. We are seeking an enthusiastic, passionate, faith-filled individual to direct young people toward a meaningful, life-affirming journey with Christ.

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# 'Tales of Wonder' told in Asheville

By JOANITA M. NELLENBACH  
CORRESPONDENT

ASHEVILLE — "Tales of Wonder" is, said director Rita Pisano, a "celebration of God the storyteller, who tells the stories to us and asks us to pass them on again."

The St. Eugene Players presented "Tales of Wonder" in St. Eugene Church Feb. 27-28 and March 6-7. The more than 60 cast members, ages 3 to over 70, were from St. Eugene and the Basilica of St. Lawrence in Asheville, St. Barnabas Church in Arden, and St. Margaret Mary Church in Swannanoa. Music rehearsals began in November, with staging rehearsals starting in January.

Marty Haugen's music, such as "Gather Us In" and "Shepherd Me, O God," is familiar in hymnals. Haugen composed "Tales" for a male and female storyteller and a dancer, with a chorus in the background. Pisano, St. Eugene's director of children's youth, music and drama, adapted it for a larger cast.

"Each person involved ... has brought with them their own relationship to God, the storyteller," Pisano wrote in the program notes.

"Thus, this production is not merely about biblical parables, it is also about how we, the church, are affected by them. For ultimately, it is we who must become in our own rights, the storytellers — passing on from our generation to the next the stories we have come to know and, hopefully, internalized."



PHOTO BY JOANITA M. NELLENBACH

**Dancers celebrate new hope in "Tales of Wonder," presented at St. Eugene Church Feb. 27-28 and March 6-7.**

God, the storyteller?  
Yes, Pisano said, "if we see Scripture as God-inspired. The Old Testament is the story of the beginning of our faith."

The players presented "Tales" in St. Eugene's sanctuary, the altar and tabernacle having been removed before the performances. After the Feb. 28 performance, the crew tore down the set and reinstalled the altar and tabernacle, which were again removed for the next performances.

"Tales" begins with Creation. Cast members carry in springy tree branches from which hang puffy clouds streaming silvery "rain," colorful birds and fish, a bright sun. The

sparkling snake, with red eyes that light up, is placed on a rock, where it sits throughout the performance.

The stories — Creation; the perfect, living world; and Job, representing separation and death — are told in words, song and dance.

Then soldiers, shooting at each other, kill a child by mistake.

After this tragic moment, the church darkens, but hope will not be destroyed. A boy in an alb, holding a lighted paschal candle, walks down the center aisle, followed by another boy with a basket of smaller candles. The cast members process up to accept candles from the basket, which they light from the paschal candle.

They in turn light candles the audience members received when they entered the church. Slowly, reminiscent of the great vigil of Easter, the church begins to glow with soft light.

While they are lighting their candles, the audience and the cast join in singing, "I say 'Yes,' my Lord," in English and Spanish.

"Yes to the God who turns us to each other in the circle of light," a narrator says, "yes to Christ, who is our light in the midst of darkness."

The tone turns upbeat as the story moves to modern times, represented by a television quiz show. Two teams must answer the emcee's question: "When do you feel like a new creation?"

They can't quite hear it, but from the mouth of a child comes the answer: "When we make music together."

The cast sings a triumphant "Alleluia" as "Tales" ends.

Pisano had already directed "Tales" twice, when she was director of music at St. Barnabas in Arden she has visualized the cantata-style program differently each time. The first time, teenagers formed the cast, so Pisano featured more romance "because that's where the kids are at that age," she said.

Next time, she had a multigenerational cast, as in the St. Eugene program, but with fewer members. Each cast member chose his or her own costume, to represent people in various walks of life.

Pisano calls it "unpacking" the story, and she lets the cast members help to do that.

"I try really hard not to direct too much," she said. "I have a basic idea of where I'm going, but I let them unpack the story. To me the definition of church is the people of God, not the hierarchy. The people really have to have a part in telling the story."

However it was visualized, the audience seemed to enjoy "Tales of Wonder."

"It shows you can be spiritual and have fun," Anne Bergeron said.

"I liked the age difference, all the people who go up on the stage to sing," Jerry Bergeron said. "That's what's so great about Rita: she gets people involved."

Contact Correspondent Joanita M. Nellenbach by calling (828) 627-9209 or e-mail [jnell@dnnet.net](mailto:jnell@dnnet.net).

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# Mercy Sister Mary Joan Faller dies at 96

*Nun remembered for her faithfulness and devotion*

BELMONT — Mercy Sister Mary Joan Faller, 96, died March 16, 2003, at Marian Center at Sacred Heart Convent in Belmont. She was in her 72nd year as a Sister of Mercy.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held March 19 at the Cardinal Gibbons Memorial Chapel with burial following at the Belmont Abbey Cemetery.

Sister Mary Joan was born April 13, 1906 in Roxbury, Mass., which is now a part of Boston. Her birth name was Eleanor Smith Faller; she took the name Sister Mary Joan upon entering the religious order of the Sisters of Mercy June 6, 1930. She professed her first vows Jan. 6, 1933 and her perpetual vows Feb. 3, 1936.

Sister Mary Joan attended Sacred Heart Junior College and earned her bachelor's degree in botany and mathematics from the College of Mt. St. Vincent-on-Hudson in New York in 1940. In 1947, she went to the University of Notre Dame where she earned a master's in zoology and botany.

Not one to let new educational techniques pass her by, she returned to school in Raleigh during the 1960s to remain current in the study of modern math and returned to school again in the early 1970s to complete her certificate in management of archives. She maintained an active teaching certificate through 1978.

She taught at numerous Catholic schools throughout North Carolina during her long academic career. A versatile instructor, she taught geometry, algebra, biology, mathematics, chemistry, microbiology, zoology and botany from 1932 through 1966. Institutions where she served include the Catholic Orphanage in Nazareth; St. Mary's School in Wilmington; Holy Redeemer School in Newton Grove; O'Donoghue School in Charlotte; Sacred Heart Academy and Sacred Heart Junior College in Belmont; and Mercy Hospital School of Nursing in Charlotte.

Beginning in 1952 and continuing through 1972, Sister Mary Joan began her ministry at Sacred Heart College in the Alumnae Relations Department. In that capacity she handled public relations, supervised the news bureau and maintained responsibility for publication

of the college annual, the Gradatim.

As an outgrowth of that ministry, in 1964 she was asked to maintain the archives for her community. She remained in charge of the Regional Community Archives until her retirement 30 years later Aug. 6, 1994. At that time, the community dedicated the renovated Archives Department in her name and affixed a plaque at the site in her honor.



Mercy Sister Mary Joan Faller

Aside from her ministry duties, she served her community in other forms as well. From 1947 through 1952, she served as a Sunday school teacher at St. James Church in Concord. In 1962, she was named Secretary of the Board of Trustees of Sacred Heart College and remained in that position until 1971.

She was also a member of the Board of Trustees of Holy Angels Nursery in 1968. Following her retirement, Sister Mary Joan moved to Marian Hall and later to Marian Center, where she remained active in her prayer ministry until her death as she continued to live out the motto inscribed in her ring, "Jesus, Mary."

Sister Mary Joan was well known for her faithfulness and devotion. Her community certainly benefited from her years of managing the archives and preserving the invaluable history of the community. She also possessed a memory for dates that ranks close to legendary status.

Sister Mary Joan was the daughter of the late George S. Faller Sr. and Elizabeth Nickerson Faller and was predeceased by two sisters, Elizabeth Faller Gardner and Josephine Faller, and her brother, George Faller Jr. She is survived by two nephews: George Faller of Columbia, S.C., and George Richard "Dickie" Gardner of Charlotte; and four nieces, Katie Bond of Lexington, S.C., Elizabeth "Betty" Barrett Temple of Tarboro, and Jean Northrop of Wilmington, and Martha Becht of Blythewood, S.C.

Memorials may be made to the Sisters of Mercy of North Carolina, 100 Mercy Drive, Belmont, N.C. 28012-4805.

# End of prison term marks return to prayerful protest for nun, 64

By MARY ANN WYAND

CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

GREENVILLE, Ill. — Minutes after her release from a federal prison camp for women March 7, Sister Kathleen Desautels was praying and peacefully protesting again with friends outside the prison gates.

Sister Kathleen, a 64-year-old Sister of Providence who ministers at the Eighth Day Center for Justice in Chicago, served six months at the Federal Prison Camp-Greenville. She was sentenced for trespassing on government property at Fort Benning, Ga., during a November 2001 nonviolent protest to call for closure of an Army school at the base.

It was an emotional departure for the nun as about 50 women inmates surprised her by gathering in the prison camp's outdoor recreation area to wave and shout goodbyes.

Waiting in the prison parking lot were several Sisters of Providence and some Eighth Day Center staff members. The group prayed for justice and peace as well as for the inmates incarcerated at the federal prison camp.

During her incarceration, Sister Kathleen wrote weekly letters to the Sisters of Providence at St. Mary-of-the-Woods, Ind., that described her federal sentence as a "government sabbatical" and her incarceration as an "Advent" time of waiting. She also shared inspiring stories about friendships with other inmates and frequently lamented unfair conditions in the federal prison system.

"... The captives are many of the women that are nonviolent offenders who are there for many, many years that they

shouldn't have to be," she said. "Seventy percent of them are mothers. As one woman said, 'I'm guilty, but I'm not 12-and-a-half years guilty.' Freeing the captives is what justice is all about."

"It was very hard to leave," she added. "I've been crying all morning, thinking about leaving these women. Their goodness, welcoming spirit, compassion and friendship are wonderful. The goodness of the women far outweighs any mistakes they made."

Sister Kathleen said she plans to speak out about the need to reinstate the Federal Parole Board and re-examine minimum sentencing regulations.

Incarceration was difficult at times, Sister Kathleen said, but she believes "you make life what it is wherever you are" and that includes looking for positive experiences even inside the prison system.

After visiting Nicaragua, Colombia, Guatemala, Haiti and Iraq, Sister Kathleen said the people's stories of suffering in those beleaguered countries inspire her to speak out on their behalf.

"Our work has been to look at the causes of the human rights violations that U.S. policies have created, such as the School of the Americas," she said.

Now known as the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation, the Fort Benning facility trains soldiers from Latin American countries in anti-insurgency tactics. Some graduates have been convicted of torturing and murdering priests, nuns and their own people.

"So you have to do something," Sister Kathleen said. "I think there's a point at which you have to step over a line. Why did I do it? I stepped over the line, but it was the government that put me there."

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For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him.

John 3:16-17

# The Catholic

## NEWS & HERALD

Sisters in Spirit  
celebrate Mary,  
friendship

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MARCH 28, 2003

SERVING CATHOLICS IN WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA IN THE DIOCESE OF CHARLOTTE

VOLUME 12 No 27

## Deploying the power of prayer



CNS PHOTO BY KAREN CALLAWAY, NORTHWEST INDIANA CATHOLIC

Left: Pope John Paul II delivers an impassioned prayer for populations "threatened by war" March 19 during remarks at his weekly general audience in St. Peter's Square. Above: Benedictine Sister Patricia Crowley, left, of Chicago, and Catholic parishioner Dolly Arnolds, third from left, of Evanston, Ill., join Muslim women in noon prayer at the third annual Catholic-Muslim Studies Conference in Chicago March 20.

### Pope prays for victims of U.S.-Iraqi war, their families

By CINDY WOODEN  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — As the death toll in Iraq rose and television stations broadcast pictures of captured U.S. soldiers, Pope John Paul II prayed for all the victims of the war and for their families.

Raising his voice in an emphatic prayer, the pope also prayed March 23 for "the gift of peace."

At the end of a beatification Mass in St. Peter's Square on the fourth day of the U.S.-led attacks on Iraq, the pope asked the Blessed Virgin Mary's intercession to bring peace to the region.

"To her we particularly entrust the victims of these hours of war and their families who are suffering," the pope said as dozens of people in the square waved rainbow-colored peace banners.

The pope said his affection and prayers are with all those suffering because of the war.

Pope John Paul also spoke about the fighting in Iraq March 22 as he welcomed the employees of Telepace, an Italian-based Catholic television and radio network celebrating its 25th anniversary.

See POPE, page 8

### Religious leaders, organizations respond to war on Iraq

By KEVIN E. MURRAY  
ACTING EDITOR

CHARLOTTE — Members of the Diocese of Charlotte joined U.S. Catholic bishops and other religious leaders across the country in calling for prayers for civilians and troops affected by the war against Iraq, for guidance and wisdom for the nation's leaders, and most of all for peace.

The church leaders made their pleas in statements released before and after U.S. President George W. Bush's announcement March 19 that the war on Iraq had begun.

"Now that the United

States is at war with Iraq, we are deeply aware that now is a time for renewed prayer, continued moral reflection and authentic citizenship," said Msgr. Mauricio W. West, diocesan administrator of the Diocese of Charlotte.

"Our hearts and thoughts are with those who bear the burdens of this terrible battle: the men and women of the armed forces and their families and friends," said Msgr. West, "the people of the United States and Iraq, the leaders of our nation and the world

See PRAYER, page 9

### Students hit high notes with music

*Programs promote discipline, learning*

By MARY MARSHALL

CHARLOTTE — The Mecklenburg Area Catholic Schools (MACS) instrumental music program is thriving, and students are benefiting.

Twelve years ago, Dr. Stanley Michalski, coordinator of instrumental music for MACS, began the program with just a handful of students at the elementary level. Today, five elementary schools, Holy Trinity Middle School and Charlotte Catholic High School have a combined total of 525 students participating in the program.

"Continuity and the fact that the program builds from the elementary level on up are the keys to the success of the program," said Michalski. He also credits the program's success to the support of the administration at each of the MACS institutions.

"Music transcends the entire curriculum; there's math involved with counting, reading with the notes, sensitivity with the execution and social in that it is a group effort," said Michalski. "Music is a wholesome activity where students learn discipline that develops a lifestyle. The benefits are enormous especially in this day and age when we've pulled back from the emotional, artistic and aesthetic part of learning."

"The program influences learning at the elementary level in many ways," said An-

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### Canon law group issues guide on implementing sex abuse norms

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The Canon Law Society of America has issued a 47-page guide to following church law in implementing the U.S. bishops' norms on clerical sexual abuse of minors. The booklet was written by a CLSA task force headed by Msgr. Frederick C. Easton, judicial vicar of the Indianapolis Archdiocese. Titled "Guide to the Implementation of the U.S. Bishops' Essential Norms for Diocesan/Eparchial Policies Dealing With Allegations of Sexual Abuse of Minors by Priests or Deacons," the booklet is divided into three main sections: the rights of abuse victims, the rights of the accused, and a summary of the processes to be followed when an allegation is made that a priest or deacon has sexually abused a minor. The summary of the processes approaches each step in procedures from the standpoint of the rights of the accuser, the rights of the accused and the responsibilities of the bishop.

### Bishop hopes U.S. youths can renew faith of peers in Netherlands

ST. LOUIS (CNS) — If everything falls into place, a contingent of St. Louis youths could be headed for the Netherlands for World Youth Day 2005. The trip may result from a proposed partnership between the St. Louis Archdiocese and the Diocese of Roermond, Netherlands. Roermond Auxiliary Bishop Everard J. de Jong was in St. Louis in mid-March to study the Life Teen program and explore possible joint efforts with the archdiocese. One such effort might be for World Youth Day 2005. The international event will take place in Cologne, Germany, about 90 minutes from the Roermond Diocese. The bishop hopes, as part of the proposed partnership, to have his diocese serve as a host site for St. Louis youths attending the event. During his March 14-18 visit, Bishop de Jong met with Archbishop Justin F. Rigali of St. Louis to discuss the partnership initiative and seek his approval. The two men had first met briefly at the 2002 World Youth Day in Toronto.



CNS PHOTO BY KAREN CALLAWAY, NORTHWEST INDIANA CATHOLIC

### Youth attends prayer service for military families

Nine year-old Alyce Jakubielski and her parents, Robert and Monique, attend a prayer service for peace March 23 at St. John the Baptist Church in Whiting, Ind. The service brought together families whose loved ones are serving in the military.

### Miraculous medal on son's dog tags brings mom comfort

WINTER PARK, Fla. (CNS) — The night before her 20-year-old son was deployed, Mary Ann Gilbert gave him the miraculous medal she was wearing and knowing that he has it with his dog tags gives her great comfort. Her son, Pfc. Michael Gilbert, is in the Army National Guard. The terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, solidified thoughts he already had about joining the service. He had envisioned himself as a guard helping secure his homeland or being stationed at an airport, but he was deployed in January and is now in Iraq. "Before Michael was born, I went to the chapel at

St. Margaret Mary and prayed that Mary would watch over him and make him her own son, too," said Gilbert, a member of St. Margaret Mary Parish in Winter Park. "He has always had a quiet connection to Mary which appears in unexpected and unusual ways, which makes me feel that my prayer, however simple, is answered in his life," she said.

### Marine pilot recalled as 'ray of sunshine' by family priest

ST. ANNE, Ill. (CNS) — Residents of the tiny town of St. Anne, population 1,300, remembered the Marine captain who was among the first casualties of the war against Iraq as a "ray of sunshine" and the kind of man you would like your

daughter to marry. The family and friends of Capt. Ryan Anthony Beaupre, 30, gathered at St. Anne's Church for a memorial Mass March 21, just hours after a Marine delegation had brought the news of Beaupre's death in a helicopter crash in Kuwait, nine miles from the border with Iraq. Three other U.S. Marines and eight British soldiers also died in the crash of the CH-46 Sea Knight helicopter piloted by Beaupre. "He was the kind of kid that when he came home he would visit every single relative and friend," Father James Fanale, pastor of St. Anne's, told The Associated Press. "He was just a kind of ray of light, a ray of sunshine." Pat Gould of Kankakee, a family friend, told The Daily Journal newspaper in Kankakee that Ryan Beaupre "was at ease with anyone ... the kind of kid you would like your daughter to marry. He was the most charming young man."

### Florida dioceses work with government, agencies on environment

JUNO BEACH, Fla. (CNS) — Injured sea turtles that are being nursed back to health at the Marinelife Center in Juno Beach are good examples of creatures whose survival is threatened by damage to the environment. "The sea turtle is one of the last surviving prehistoric creatures, along with alligators and certain fish," said Vince Lowe, the center's executive director. A life-long love for aquatic life and the natural sciences prompted the former development officer at The Catholic University of America in Washington to come out of retirement to head the center. He and his staff talk to the turtles as if they were patients in a neonatal ward in a hospital for humans. "We really do focus on the value of all life," he added. Sick and injured turtles are brought to the center's animal hospital from all over Florida and from other states. After they recuperate they are returned to the wild. Environmental damage and how it affects quality of life has become a concern for Catholic dioceses in Florida, and they are working with government and nonprofit agencies to address the root causes of such damage.

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## Diocesan planner

### March

**31 CHARLOTTE** — A support group meeting for caregivers of family and friends suffering from memory loss will be held today 10-11:30 a.m. in room E of the ministry center at St. Gabriel Church, 3016 Providence Rd. With advanced notification, activities for the memory-impaired can be provided. For more information about the support group or the Shining Stars Adult Day Respite Program for the memory-impaired, which meets every Monday and Wednesday at St. Gabriel 10 a.m.-3 p.m. and every Tuesday and Thursday at Sardis Presbyterian Church, 6100 Sardis Rd., 10 a.m.-3 p.m., call Suzanne Bach at (704) 376-4135.

### April

**14 BELMONT** — Are you Catholic, but not an active member of your

church? Do you feel unwelcome, "on the edge," "in exile," in your own church? The Catholic Church of Mary, Queen of Apostles, 503 N. Main St., offers a ministry for Catholics who are inactive in their own church, and wish to find a safe place to return. Catholics Returning Home will take place on tonight 7-8:30 p.m. in the Church Family Center Library. Contact Dennis Teall-Fleming at teallfleming@yahoo.com or (704) 868-9392 for more information, to find your place in the church again, or just to talk about your situation.

**2 GREENSBORO** — Many of us want to do "something extra" during Lent. The Greensboro Council of Catholic Women will host their annual Lenten mini-retreat today and April 9 at St. Benedict Church, 109 West Smith St. Mass will be at 10 a.m. followed by refreshments. For information, call Janet Law at (336) 288-6022.

**2 ALBEMARLE** — The Forever Young Club of Our Lady of the Annunciation Church, 416 N. 2nd St., will be

having a meeting and a covered dish lunch in the Family Life Center this morning at 10 a.m. For further details, call Gerald Maiden (704) 982-5261.

**2 BELMONT** — Cherubs Café by Holy Angels will host a Prayer and Share Breakfast each Wednesday of Lent at 7 a.m. This time offers patrons the opportunity to take a few moments from their busy schedules for a spiritual break with a light breakfast and a scriptural-based message.

**2 CHARLOTTE** — The Happy Timers of St. Ann Church, 3635 Park Rd., will be having a meeting with a luncheon and program at 1 p.m. in the parish activity center. All adults age 55 and older are welcome. For information about the senior group, call Charles Nesto at (704) 398-0879.

**2 HIGH POINT** — Immaculate Heart of Mary Church presents its Lenten series "The Beatitudes: Gospel Attitudes for Our Times" tonight and April 9. Each session begins at 7:30 p.m. in the Gathering Space of IHM, corner of



# Kenyan church calls for new investigation into missionary's death

NAIROBI, Kenya (CNS) — The Catholic Church in Kenya has reiterated its call for the government to reopen its investigation into the death of U.S. Mill Hill Father John Kaiser, who was shot and killed in 2000. Archbishop Giovanni Tonucci, papal nuncio to Kenya, said during a March 19 Mass in Nairobi that Father Kaiser suffered death "twice" — from the people who killed him and from those who were hiding what really happened to him. The archbishop said Kenya's government should "forget about the theory in which they do not believe more than we do" — that Father Kaiser committed suicide — and "start working toward bringing out the truth of what happened," reported Kenya's Daily Nation newspaper. Thirteen Kenyan bishops also attended the Mass, which marked 100 years of Mill Hill missionary work in Kenya. This was the third time in recent weeks that the church has urged the government to reopen Father Kaiser's case.

## Exiled missionary says Russia 'blacklists' Christian clergy

WARSAW, Poland (CNS) — A Catholic priest who was ordered to leave Russia said Catholic and Protestant clergy have been blacklisted from returning. "The existence of the blacklist explains why the five priests expelled before me haven't come back," said Polish-born Father Bronislaw Czaplicki. "But I haven't been expelled myself, just refused permanent stay. There's no sense in speculating about the reasons, which will merely give the authorities further excuses to justify their actions," he told Catholic News Service. Father Czaplicki returned to Poland's Archdiocese of Katowice after being ordered to leave his parish in Pushkin, south of St. Petersburg. He had worked in Russia for 12 years. He said church leaders in the northern Russian city were currently attempting to register his parish, so he could apply for an official invitation and entry visa under November 2002 regulations.



CNS PHOTO BY JIM WEST

## Arab-Americans rally for and against Iraqi war

Arab-Americans in Dearborn, Mich., chant and wave flags March 24 in support of U.S. troops in Iraq. Protest groups lined both sides of Michigan Avenue in front of City Hall, rallying in support of and opposition to the Iraqi war. Some 200,000 Arab-Americans live in the Detroit area.

## Cardinal tells faithful to turn to prayer to ease war anxiety

NEW YORK (CNS) — Cardinal Edward M. Egan of New York said at a Mass for peace March 20 that believers should turn to prayer to deal with their anxieties about the Iraq war. In a homily at a Mass the day after the war was launched, he called on his listeners to receive the peace promised to followers of Christ, and then commit themselves to becoming peacemakers. Cardinal Egan used the regularly scheduled 5:30 p.m. Mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral to address concerns prompted by the war. There was no music, elaborate ritual or attendance by public officials who normally show up at special events. Seeing many empty pews, Cardinal Egan said celebrating the liturgy as a peace Mass

was arranged at the last minute and not widely publicized. But he said it was important to have a time of prayer to address "the tragedy that we are facing now."

## 'Unglamorous' measure on abortion keeps legislators, courts busy

WASHINGTON (CNS) — With many states in the middle of their 2003 legislative sessions, proposals that one pro-life official calls "unglamorous but highly effective" against abortion were receiving a hearing in statehouses around the country — and in some courts. Bills requiring informed consent and/or a waiting period before an abortion were before the legislatures in 23 states this year. And previously approved bills

were facing legal challenges in Delaware, Florida and Indiana, among others, despite a recent U.S. Supreme Court action refusing to reconsider a lower court decision affirming the Indiana law. Although they differ in the details, each of the proposals or laws requires that women considering abortion receive certain materials on fetal development, alternatives to abortion, and services available to them if they choose to continue the pregnancy. Some also mandate a specific period of time, usually 18 to 24 hours, between when the information is received and when the abortion is performed. "These are the kinds of unglamorous but highly effective laws that make a real difference," said Mary Spaulding Balch, director of state legislation for the National Right to Life Committee. "When a woman receives objective evidence about the development of her baby and of the availability of alternatives, often it eases her mind. When a woman sees there is a 'better way,' many times she will choose it."

## \$2 million in scholarships available for Native American Catholics

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions has awarded two \$1 million undergraduate scholarships for Catholic Native Americans at The Catholic University of America in Washington and Xavier University in New Orleans. Called the Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions-Carl A. Westerkamp American Indian Scholarship, the grants will fund full-tuition scholarships for Catholic Native Americans who are members of a tribe or have formal associations with their tribes. Special consideration will be given to financially needy applicants. The scholarships are funded by a bequest to the bureau from the late Carl A. Westerkamp, a Catholic who developed a great love for Native Americans as a result of living a short time in Montana and visiting relatives there. Westerkamp stipulated that the gift be used for the education of Catholic Native Americans.

Johnson St. and Skeet Club Rd. Father Jack Kelly will present "Lenten Reflection" tonight. For details, please call (336) 869-7739.

3 WINSTON-SALEM — The Healing Companions is a grief support group for the bereaved. They will be meeting tonight and April 17 in conference room B at St. Leo the Great Church, 335 Springdale Ave. For details, call Joanne Parcel at (336) 924-9478.

3 HICKORY — St. Aloysius Church, 921 Second St. NE, will hold a Charismatic Mass today and first Thursday every of each month in Sebastian Chapel at 7 p.m. For more information, contact Joan Moran (828) 327-0487.

3 GUILFORD COUNTY — The Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians Guilford County Division 1, an Irish-Catholic social and charitable inter-parish group, will be having a meeting tonight at 7:30 p.m. St. Pius X Church in Greensboro. For further information, call Elaine McHale

at (336) 292-1118.

4 CHARLOTTE — The Charlotte Diocese Catholic Committee on Scouting will hold its 28th annual Boy Scout Camporee at Camp Clear Creek near Mint Hill April 4-6. This year's theme is "Stewards of God's Creation." All Catholic Scout troops, Cub Packs or individual scouts or units led by Catholics are encouraged to attend. For details contact Camporee Master Jack Barton at (704) 846-4503 or Joe Vari at (704) 846-5155 or at vari@alltel.net.

4 SALISBURY — Sacred Heart Catholic School will be hosting the 2003 Lenten Dinner tonight, consisting of an all-you-can-eat Italian dinner, salad & dessert bar. Take-out begins at 4 p.m. and eat-in is available 5-7 p.m. at Helfrich Hall. For ticket information call Traci Chilton @ (704) 855-5499.

4 CHARLOTTE — St. Peter Church, 507 S. Tryon St., will offer Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament today following the 12:10 p.m. Mass and Benediction at 1:30 p.m.

5 BELMONT — The Knights of Columbus, Council #11076, will host their annual "The Great American Yard Sale" today at Queen of the Apostles Catholic Church, 503 N. Main St., 8 a.m.-Noon. Boy Scout Troop #61 will be offering a pancake and sausage breakfast. Proceeds from the yard sale will finance the Knights' support of charitable programs throughout Gaston County. Donations of saleable merchandise are welcome. Please contact/leave a message for George Burazer at (704) 822-6350.

5 BELMONT — Belmont Abbey College will present a day-long conference on "Islamic-Western Encounters" today beginning at 9 a.m. in the Student Commons. This event is open to all at no charge. Dr. John Alden Williams, an internationally known scholar on Islam, will be the keynote speaker. To assist in planning, please call (704) 825-6852 to RSVP.

5 SYLVA — St. Mary Church offers Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament the

first Saturday of every month following the 9 a.m. Mass until 3 p.m. For information, call (828) 586-9496.

5 WINSTON-SALEM — Our Lady of Mercy will present "Catholic & Islamic Perspectives on War, Peace and Solidarity: Growing in Knowledge, Seeking Peace," today 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. in the PMR room of OLM School, 1730 Link Road. The sessions include videotaped presentations by Joan Rosenhauer, developer of educational parish resources at the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops; and Dr. Mumtaz Ahmad, a professor of Political Science at Hampton University who has researched on Islam, political theory and socioeconomic change. Drinks and snacks provided. Box lunch can be ordered. Please register by noon Wed. April 2 to OLM (336) 722-7001 (daytime), Wendy Glen (336) 924-0400 or Katie Ess (336) 924-2066 (evenings).



# Helping communities help themselves

*Sociologist develops programs to serve others*

By DIANNE M.A. RIGGS  
CORRESPONDENT

MARS HILL — "When I look back on my career, I was just pulled in to help solve issues," said Dr. Thomas Plaut.

In 1989, neither sociology teacher Plaut nor his senior seminar students at Mars Hill College could have foreseen that their research project, undertaken to discover if Teen Court actually helped teen delinquents, would eventually lead over the years to a major, stand-alone center to help communities help themselves.

In the intervening years, under the directorship of Plaut, (formally since 1995), the Richard L. Hoffman Center for Assessment and Research Alliances (CARA) has been responsible for assisting projects in seven counties of western North Carolina, as well as partnering with many other educational and community-based services.

CARA's work includes assessing needs and strengths, teaching assessment skills, evaluating action outcomes, grant writing, focus groups and much more. For example, one recent health survey in Madison County coordinated by CARA found that one-

third of children entering kindergarten had never seen a dentist.

"That information kicked off the process for a pediatric dental clinic," said Plaut.

He is also very pleased that the center facilitates conversations between persons of diverse backgrounds and occupations, such as when "factory workers sit down with hospital administrators" to come up with solutions for community needs.

As a Catholic convert, Plaut, who earned a doctorate in sociology from Union Institute in Cincinnati, Ohio, said there are many social issues that need to be addressed. "You don't go looking for stuff — it finds you," he said.

Plaut, who once practiced Transcendental Meditation and later attended the Society of Friends (Quaker) meetings of

silent meditative worship, believes community to be important.

He experienced community in Venezuela while in the Peace Corps during the mid-1960s; while working in the financial aid office at Federal City College in Washington, D.C.; and while teaching at Davis and Elkins College in West Virginia in the

early 1970s.

But when he came to Mars Hill College to set up the Southern Appalachian Center in 1977, he was struck by the vibrancy of community he met in various Jesuits and Franciscans. Later, Jesuit Father Joe McClosky led Plaut and his wife through the Ignatian Exercises, which, said Plaut integrate Scripture and silent prayer and lead to answering questions: where do I fit in this (Scripture) and how does this speak to me?

"I became Catholic ... it (Catholicism) became a home," he said. "Christianity gave me a context in which to put my life, to make decisions for daily life."

Plaut then began attending the storefront Catholic mission that would become St. Andrew the Apostle Church at Mars Hill. He has been a part of that community of prayer's music ministry for 20 years.

"(Community) is clusters of people who come together around something," he said. "It used to be

around family, land. Now, community is often around a concern or idea."

One concern was that of a man dying of inoperable cancer in remote Madison County. Plaut learned the man had no one to look after him and he had been abandoned by the medical profession. Over the next few years, Plaut and others helped set up hospice care in Asheville in 1981 and later several other western counties.

Plaut was involved in another area community concern formed around the victims of rape and assault, who prior to 1985 were left out of the justice system in Buncombe and Madison counties, he said.

Communities, however, are very organic and go through cycles: birth, growth, waning and sometimes death, said Plaut. He said communities gathered around concerns often serve their purpose and then fade away. There is a death and resurrection theme, he said.

"If you don't see this in a spiritual way, (you) burn out," he said.

Contact Correspondent Dianne M.A. Riggs by calling (828) 299-4411 or e-mail [mountainquixote@aol.com](mailto:mountainquixote@aol.com).



Dr. Thomas Plaut

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# Sisters in Spirit celebrate Mary, friendship

By KAREN A. EVANS  
STAFF WRITER

*Editor's Note: To respect their privacy, only first names are used.*

CHARLOTTE — The 150 women who came to St. Matthew Church March 22 for the fourth annual Women's Day expected a day of prayer and renewal. What they came away with was just that — and so much more. They left with uplifted spirits and new friends after a day of prayer, sharing and song.

Among the day's activities were a Mass; a presentation by Mary C. Curtis, columnist for The Charlotte Observer; roundtable discussions; and entertainment. In addition, eight women shared personal inspirational stories.

Women's Day began with the Jubilee 2000 to celebrate the Annunciation of the Lord, said Beth McDuffie, member of the steering committee. That first year was such a success, the women of St. Matthew decided to make it an annual event. Each year, the steering committee uses a different theme celebrate the Annunciation.

"We hope that this year's theme, 'Sisters in Spirit,' inspires women to be true sisters in spirit," said McDuffie, "and to have the courage to lean on each other when they need to."

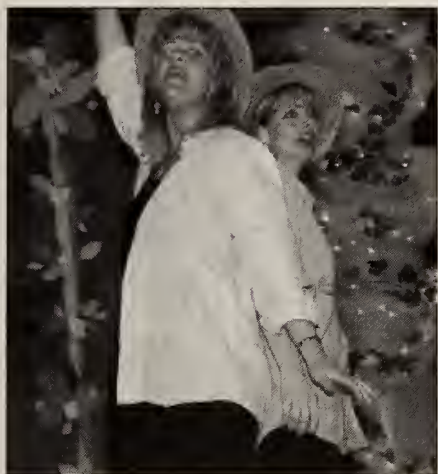
Mercy Sister Jean Marie Kienast, also a member of the steering committee, referred to the feast of the Annunciation as the time when we celebrate Mary's "yes" to the angel Gabriel.

Curtis spoke about the accomplishments women can achieve when they say "yes" to a challenge.

"Historically, women have banded together to fight for issues as important as the right to vote," said Curtis. "The Junior Leagues and women's clubs of the world have accomplished untold charitable feats."

"The Girl Scouts organization helps give young women an early lesson in coming together to achieve a goal," she said.

Curtis challenged the audience



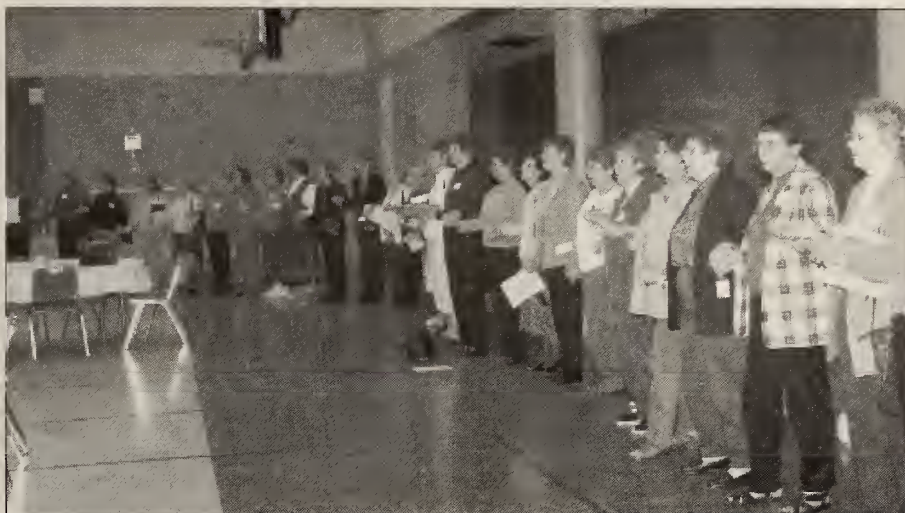
PHOTOS BY KAREN A. EVANS

## Sisters in Song

Left: Kathy Bartlett and Patty Heon perform "Sisters" at the fourth annual Women's Day at St. Matthew Church. The song's final line is "And Lord help the sister who comes between me and my man." In this case, the man represents Jesus.

## Sisters in Spirit

Below: women from across the diocese gather for a closing prayer at the end of Women's Day. More than 150 women participated in a day of prayer, sharing, song and renewal. This year's celebration focused on spiritual friendships of women.



members with some difficult questions: What can I do? What is my talent? What is my gift? How can I build an atmosphere of peace and trust and unity? How can each of us become the sister in spirit to others in need?

"We must be women of peace," said Sister Jean Marie. "(We must) turn away from the news of the world and towards being peacemakers in our families."

"Say 'yes' to your next challenge, and go out and make a difference," said Sylvia, one of the participants.

Participants in the sharing portion of the program related often-painful ex-

periences from their own lives. The purpose of these stories was to illustrate how their sisters in spirit helped when they were in great need.

"Every woman I know treasures her closest woman friend," said Curtis. She shared her experiences with her "three o'clock in the morning" friend. She and Gail were best friends for 10 years, until Gail's death from colon cancer in 1994.

Following Gail's death, other friends stepped in to help fill the gap in Curtis' life. These women nourished her bodily and spiritually.

"My sisters in spirit came through," Curtis said.

Mary, mother of Jesus, was often

referred to by participants not only for saying "yes" to God, but for her friendships with other women.

"Mary is the feminine face of God," said Sister Jean Marie. "It is important to honor Mary, who stood at the foot of the cross with her companions."

"Even Mary need the support of her friends when she stood at the foot of the cross," echoed Donna, one of the participants.

"Friendship is a gift from God," said Sister Jean Marie. "It is a way that God call us to him. The Irish call it Anamchara, or 'soul friend.' Soul friends are often those with whom we share the Eucharist," she said.

Another participant, Barbara, related the parable from the Gospel of Luke of the paralytic, whose friends carried him to be healed by Jesus. When her home was destroyed by a fire, Barbara's sisters in spirit carried her spiritually in the aftermath of the fire.

For Cathy, her friends counseled her on how to pray. They told her to be specific in her prayers: "Do I do this, or do I do that?"

God sent her a clear sign of what she should do, Cathy said. Her friends helped her through the most painful time of her life.

"In the darkness of pain and suffering we learn the most," said Debbie, another participant. "We must teach others to know that the God who walks with them, loves them."

"During difficult times we learn who our true friends are," said Elizabeth.

"Love and life are inseparable from God," she said. "Our Lord has given us a new definition of family; our brothers and sister in Christ are family."

"It is a blessing to be a woman," said Donna. "It is easier for us to nurture than to be ministered to."

"As women, we must bring Christ's love to those who are most in need," said Pat.

The women closed the celebration with a prayer circle encircling the entire room. Together, they sang, prayed, cried, laughed and became sisters in spirit.

Contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans by calling (704) 370-3354 or e-mail [kaevans@charlottediocese.org](mailto:kaevans@charlottediocese.org).

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# Illuminating lives and churches

*Woman's St. Francis artwork captured in stained glass window*



By DIANNE M.A. RIGGS

CORRESPONDENT

GREENSBORO — Kandice Maria Weglin's artwork is a gift that keeps on giving.

In 1993, Weglin crafted a tall, narrow, colored pen and ink drawing centered on the life of St. Francis of Assisi as a gift for Franciscan Father Louis Canino, director of the Franciscan Center in Greensboro.

Father Canino was very taken with the print, which featured a young, serene-looking St. Francis holding a Bible, the San Damiano cross, the Church of San Damiano chapel (where Francis had received the commission from Christ to "rebuild my church"), Mount Alverna, (where Francis and the Friars Minor lived and where Francis had received the Stigmata) and the town of Assisi.

Father Canino had the drawing framed; later, in 1996, he asked if he could use it for a card to be sold by the Franciscan Center in their gift shop. Weglin consented.

St. Francis of Assisi has been Weglin's hero since her childhood. She was awed by how he reached out to people without regard to social status — literally from the leper to the pope.

"St. Francis was about being simple and honest," she said. "(He) changed the church forever with his gospel of simplicity and reaching out equally to everyone ... I saw him as a model — something I would like to attain."

Weglin became a Third Order Franciscan in 1995.

Father Andrew Draper, TOR (Third Order Regular of Saint Francis) came upon the card at the Franciscan Center gift shop. He liked it and in 2002 asked to use it for a stained glass window in the new St. Francis of Assisi Church in Mocksville.

Again, Weglin agreed.

The tall window stands at the en-

trance of the church, which was dedicated Dec. 15, 2002.

"It is very restful," said Father Draper of the artwork. "It is a reminder that as you leave the church, you bring into the world what you have received in the Eucharist and the Word — a reminder to love God and neighbor and to see God in all creation."

He said the window typifies St. Francis and is very inspirational and that when he goes out of the church, he gives a "thumbs up" to Saint Francis: "If you can do it, I can do it," he said.

It is a gift shared many times over.

Weglin's drawing was converted to stained glass through work done mostly by Derek McCuiston, an artist with Salem Stained Glass, Inc., located in East Bend, N.C.

McCuiston explained when going from a picture to stained glass, one has to figure the glass lines so the finished window is "aesthetically pleasing as well as structurally sound." Glass has its limits, he said, and one cannot cut 90-degree angles or deep inside curves.

McCuiston said Weglin's work was easy to translate because it was done in a style that "resembles older European

stained glass windows."

Weglin, who has been an active member of St. Pius X Church in Greensboro for 15 years, studied art at both the University of Washington and The Art Institute of Seattle, receiving a bachelor's degree in fine arts.

Much of her work was nature oriented, she said, especially featuring birds. However, Weglin has drawn everything from logos for the Special Olympics and fine pictures of large warships for the United States Navy to backdrops for plays.

Her style is one of realism and abstraction combined. She said she sees her art as a way to help people, and hopes to begin doing "name illustrations" that weave together the personal events of a person's life with their name. Her specialty is "pulling together a lot of different elements ... to make a new, totaled whole," she said.

Like many other artists, Weglin has maintained a day job. She was assistant director for the Franciscan Center for seven years and is currently working as an investigative aide for the Greensboro Police Department.

"It is a people job," she said, and she believes that like much good in her life, it came to her through the Holy Spirit.

Contact Correspondent Dianne M.A. Riggs by calling (828) 299-4411 or e-mail [mountainquixote@aol.com](mailto:mountainquixote@aol.com).

## Diocesan RCIA Commission



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

Pictured are the members of the Diocesan RCIA Commission, responsible for the implementation of the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults from a diocesan perspective. In addition, they provide education and support to parish faith formation directors. Back row, from left: Carlos E. Cataneda, Susanna W. Weatherholt and Linda Licata. Front row, from left: Pat Millar, Cris Villapando and Father Martin Schratz.

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## Beatifying five who served poor, pope says all must live the Gospel

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Beatifying a layman, three nuns and a priest who spent their lives caring for the poor and exploited, Pope John Paul II said every Christian is called to put faith into practice.

"The holiness of the newly beatified stimulates us, too, to move toward evangelical perfection, putting into practice all the words of Jesus," the pope said in his homily at the March 23 Mass. The task is difficult, he said, "but possible for everyone."

The layman beatified by the pope was Laszlo Batthyany-Strattmann, a Hungarian-born physician, husband and father of 13 children.

The pope also beatified: Sister Juana Maria Condesa Lluch, Spanish founder of the Congregation of the Handmaids of the Immaculate Conception, Protectress of Workers; Spanish Sister Dolores Rodriguez Sopena, founder of the Sopena Catechetical Institute, the Sopena Lay Movement and Sopena Social and Cultural Work; Swiss-born Sister Maria Caridad Brader, founder of the Franciscan Sisters of Mary Immaculate; and French Father Pierre Bonhomme, who founded the Sisters of Our Lady of Calvary.

## CCHS Foundation hosted gala and auction

CHARLOTTE — The Charlotte Catholic High School Foundation hosted the Grand Prix Party at Carmel Country Club March 1.

The gala featured dinner, dancing and both a silent and live auction. Special guest auctioneer was radio personality Sheri Lynch of 107.9 WLNK radio.

Lynch enticed bidders to purchase two prime parking spaces at Charlotte Catholic, a Virginia mountain vacation, lunch with the principal, reserved graduation seating, a primitive pastoral oil painting, two orthodontic treatments, a personal performance from the Charlotte Catholic jazz band and a final chance in the Grand Spree drawing.

"Sheri kept us on the edge of our seats during the live auction. People were bidding on everything," said Jessica Mihaltian, a 1992 graduate of Charlotte Catholic.

Other items auctioned included fine jewelry, gift certificates to local restaurants and clubs, autographed memorabilia, golf packages and sporting event tickets.

Bitsy Shrader, a parent of a St. Ann School student, was the winner of the Grand Spree. She can choose from a trip to Hawaii, Bermuda or an Eastern or Western Caribbean cruise.

"I've never won anything before," she said. "I'm so glad I got those raffle tickets in on time."

All proceeds from the event directly



COURTESY PHOTO

Mark Axland; Jennifer Johnson, director of development at Charlotte Catholic High School; Peggy Peterson, CCHS Foundation board member and live auction chair; and radio personality Sheri Lynch at the school's gala and auction fundraiser March 1.

benefit students at Charlotte Catholic and are used to provide funding for programs not covered in the operating budget. Last year's event raised funds to outfit the new chapel currently under construction.

In addition, the Foundation's 2003 gala proceeds are allocated for teacher requests including purchases of computers, printers, computer software, training materials and professional education conferences.

The Foundation wishes to thank the volunteers who made the gala so successful. A special thanks to parents, alumni and friends who could not attend the gala, but purchased tickets that were donated to faculty members.

Plans are already underway for next year's fundraiser. For more information on the Charlotte Catholic High School Foundation, visit their Web site at [www.cchsfoundation.org](http://www.cchsfoundation.org).

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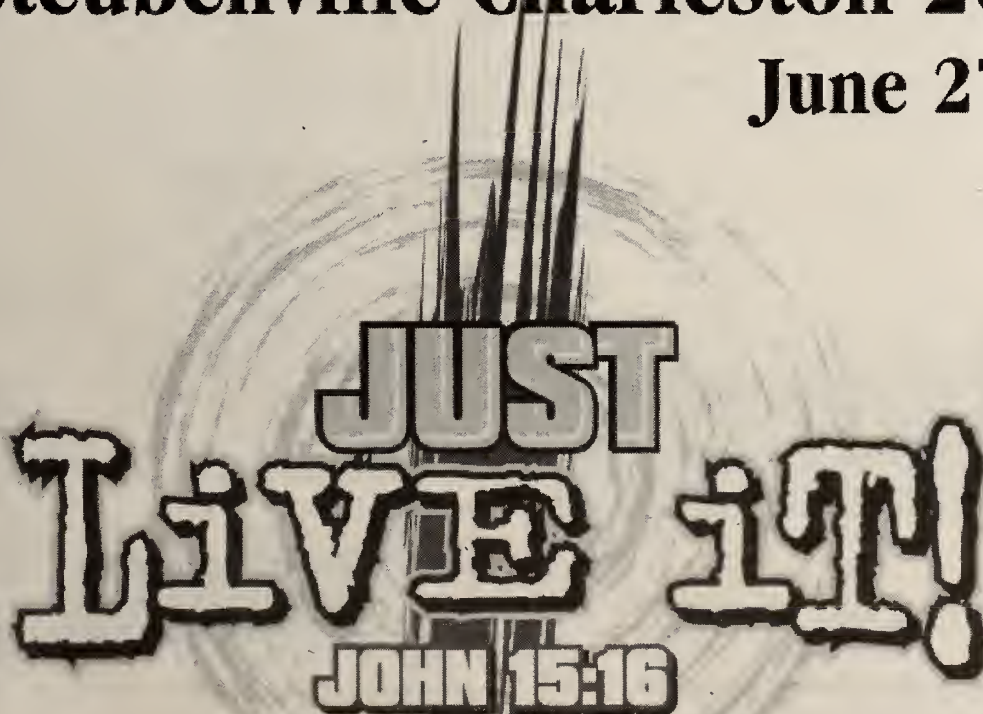
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CNS PHOTOS FROM REUTERS

Above: Iraqi youth cheer British Royal Marines as they drive through the port town of Umm Qasr in southern Iraq March 22. Despite heavy fighting that included the capture and deaths of U.S. soldiers, military personnel said that the war was proceeding according to plan.



Left: Iraqi men view the rubble of a home destroyed by a missile after an air strike in Baghdad March 23. Air strikes by U.S.-led forces continued in an effort to oust President Saddam Hussein

## POPE, from page 1

"When, as in Iraq in these days, war threatens the fate of humanity, it is even more urgent to proclaim with a strong and decisive voice that peace is the only path for building a society which is more just and marked by solidarity," the pope said.

"Violence and weapons can never resolve the problems of man," he said.

Greeting the presiding bishop and top officials of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America March 24, Pope John Paul spoke about the need for Christians to work together for peace.

"In a world situation filled with danger and insecurity, all Christians are called to stand together in proclaiming the values of the kingdom of God," he told the group, led by Lutheran Bishop Mark S. Hanson.

"The events of recent days make this duty all the more urgent," the pope said. "I join you in praying that almighty God will bestow upon the world that peace which is the fruit of justice and solidarity."

After several news agencies reported March 22 that a retired Chaldean Catholic auxiliary bishop had been injured, Vatican Radio reached him by telephone in Baghdad.

"I am fine, I am still alive, but they are bombing now," said Auxiliary

Bishop Emmanuel-Karim Delly, 75.

The bishop said a bomb fell about 100 yards away from the Chaldean Patriarchate, shattering windows, "but Our Lord saved me."

French Cardinal Paul Poupard, president of the Pontifical Council for Culture, said Pope John Paul's efforts for peace cannot be considered a failure even though the war is under way.

The pope "did not stop the war, but he touched the heart of the world," the cardinal told the Italian newspaper *Corriere della Sera* March 22.

"He made the same appeals against the first war in Iraq in 1991, but then he was desperately alone," the cardinal said. "Today he is interpreting the anxiety of humanity, even the nonbelievers, and this will bear fruit."

Meanwhile, on March 24 the Vatican newspaper expressed its outrage at television stations that broadcast Iraqi pictures of U.S. soldiers killed or taken prisoner in Iraq.

"Showing them like trophies offends human dignity," said the newspaper, *L'Osservatore Romano*, in a Page One commentary.

"The images coming from the front, rebroadcast by numerous networks, brought into homes all over the world the horror of war, brutally demonstrating the effect of the use of weapons, which, no matter how technically advanced, are built to kill," the newspaper said.

## Military archbishop: Troops can carry out duties in good conscience

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The head of the U.S. Archdiocese for the Military Services said in a March 25 letter to his priests that members of the armed forces should carry out their duties in good conscience because they can presume the integrity of the leaders who decided to go to war in Iraq.

"Given the complexity of factors involved, many of which understandably remain confidential, it is altogether appropriate for members of our armed forces to presume the integrity of our leadership and its judgments, and therefore to carry out their military duties in good conscience," Archbishop Edwin F. O'Brien said in the letter.

Bishop John Michael Botean of the Romanian Diocese of St. George in Can-

ton, Ohio, in a March 7 Lenten message told the people of his Eastern-rite diocese that "any direct participation and support of this war against the people of Iraq is objectively grave evil, a matter of mortal sin."

Although Archbishop O'Brien's letter did not directly refer to Bishop Botean's message, he told Catholic News Service that it was meant, in part, as a response to questions he has received about Bishop Botean's letter.

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# PRAYER, from page 1

who face immense decisions about life and death, about security and terrorism, about peace and war.

Joe Purello, director of the diocesan Office of Justice and Peace, said a disproportionate number of U.S. military personnel serving in the war are from North Carolina.

"Their families need our prayers and support as they hope for the safe and quick return of their loved ones," he said. "Many of us know personally military personnel involved in this war and their families. We should do all that we can to provide comfort during this time of stress and worry."

"The task now is to work and pray and hope that war's deadly consequences will be limited, that civilian life will be protected, that weapons of mass destruction will be eliminated and that the people of Iraq will soon enjoy peace with freedom and justice," said Bishop Wilton D. Gregory of Belleville, Ill., president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

While armed conflict represents at some level "a failure of diplomacy and negotiations" there is a great deal "all people of faith and good will can do" said Bishop Michael J. Sheridan of Colorado Springs, Colo.

That, he said, includes "contributing generously to humanitarian efforts," especially Catholic Relief Services; providing special pastoral care to the families of those serving in the military, particularly children; respecting those who refuse to bear arms for reasons of conscience; and praying for peace, for members of the military, and even for "Saddam Hussein and his cohorts."

"We pray for a spirit of tolerance in this time of war," Bishop Walter F.

Sullivan of Richmond, Va. said. "It is too easy for fears about the war to turn into discrimination against our Muslim and Arab neighbors ... we must guard our hearts against hate."

The Rev. Bob Edgar, general secretary of the National Council of Churches, asked council members to open sanctuary doors, keep a candle burning for peace and lights on in windows of homes and offices, and to reach out to neighbors, especially Muslims, Arabs and people of Southeast Asian descent.

"The need continues for our voices to be heard on the situation in Iraq," said Purello. "There will be refugees and internally displaced persons to care for, international aid decisions to be made, and there are still the moral imperatives related to how we conduct this war."

"Also, a concern remains as to the long-term effectiveness of the United Nations," he said. "One of the Vatican's primary concerns about this military action is the possible negative effect that it will have on the likelihood that future international disputes will be resolved multilaterally."

America's unilateralism will weaken the United Nations when the need for an institution "where all nations, regardless of size or power, have an opportunity to address the major issues facing our world" is "more necessary than ever," according to the Conference of Major Superiors of Men and the Leadership Conference of Women Religious.

In a joint statement the two organizations also prayed for the "millions of innocent Iraqi civilians," and the troops fighting the war. They also strongly urged the Bush administration "to publicly, emphatically, and once and for all rule out the use of nuclear weapons by the United States" and ban the use of anti-personnel land mines, especially because Bush said the goal of any action against Iraq was to rid that nation of weapons of mass destruction.



CNS PHOTO BY DEBBIE HILL

## Franciscan friars pray for peace at Jerusalem church

Franciscan Father Peter Vasko, of New York prays the rosary for peace in the Middle East at St. Savior Church in Jerusalem's Old City March 20, the day of the first of the U.S.-led strikes in Iraq. Around the globe Franciscan communities were called by their minister general to fasting and prayers in opposition to war, violence, injustice, terrorism and what he called an unbridled thirst for power.

"Peace at any cost is an ineffective strategy in a fallen world inhabited by evil dictators who oppress our brothers and sisters," noted Bishop Paul S. Loverde of Arlington, Va., "but war, as our Holy Father repeatedly tells us, is always a defeat for humanity."

Even members of the U.S. military themselves asked for prayers. Since some 83,000 troops have made that request, the Presidential Prayer Team launched a troop adoption campaign. At the Web site [www.presidentialprayerteam.org](http://www.presidentialprayerteam.org), Americans can adopt soldiers, promising to pray for them daily.

Until the war ends, Bishop Kenneth A. Angell of Burlington, Vt., said: "We

will be on our knees to the Lord, that he may grant this weary world peace."

"There are no easy answers to the many questions raised by this conflict; the people of God differ on how to apply biblical teaching and principles to this situation," said Msgr. West. "In this hour, let us unite our prayer with fasting and acts of penance in the fervent hope that our nation and world find truly effective ways to bring about justice and peace, secure security and freedom, and promote understanding and reconciliation for all of God's people."

*Catholic News Service contributed to this story.*

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## Book Review

## Three books on Lenten devotions

REVIEWED BY WAYNE A. HOLST AND  
MAUREEN E. DALY  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

"It is better to allow our lives to speak for us than our words. God did not bear the cross only 2,000 years ago. (God) bears it today, and (God) dies and is resurrected from day to day. ... Do not, then, preach the God of history but show (God) as (God) lives today through you." — Mohandas K. Gandhi.

Praying the Way of the Cross is a long-standing Christian practice of personal engagement in the life, death and resurrection of God in Christ.

Since a pilgrimage to the Holy Land and the places Jesus enacted his passion has been possible for only a privileged few, church leaders around the world have followed the practice of creating local stations as a helpful substitute for ordinary pilgrims to visit and relive Christ's paschal mystery.

A decade ago, Pope John Paul II modified his Good Friday Way of the Cross so that the classic 14 stations followed more closely the Scripture narrative. (The pope and many other Catholics had already added a 15th station, the Resurrection, to the traditional group so that the prayer ended with the hope of Easter.) The pope's

devotional resource for use in these settings and may be adapted to traditional settings. The Scripture selections can serve as a good discipline in and of themselves. The longer meditations will be appreciated by some devotees, and community walks patterned after the stations can be attempted by others. Parishes not currently providing a Way of the Cross might encourage members to fashion their own symbolic creations.

Catholic Christians will find in this book an opportunity to restore new life to a long-standing spiritual discipline. Non-Catholic Christians will discover a worthy spiritual activity they may have previously neglected or avoided. (WAH)

Many churches perform a liturgy of "Tenebrae" on the Wednesday of Holy Week. This is one of the most mournful prayer services of the entire liturgical year. The office typically draws from the Book of Lamentations, five short chapters in the Old Testament that are some of the saddest poetry anyone will ever read.

"Lamentations: From New York to Kabul and Beyond" by poet and Jesuit Father Daniel Berrigan walks the reader through Lamentations, accompanying Scripture quotes with modern reflections tied to the attacks of Sept. 11 and the war in Afghanistan.

This book is easy to read but difficult to bear. Father Berrigan is an angry pacifist and his anti-war passion sometimes leads him to harsh criticisms. Still, in this time of Lent, of war and of lamentation, this might be a book worth looking at.

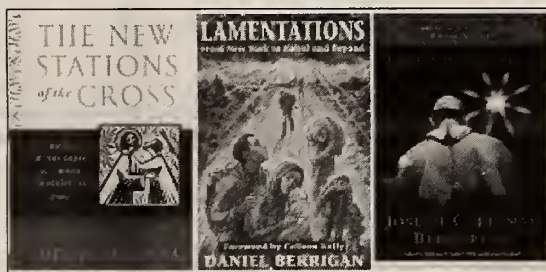
The moving, harsh illustrations by Robert McGovern are heavy black drawings that have the look of lithographs. These

dark and stark images repay lengthy study.

"The Journey to Peace: Reflections on Faith Embracing Suffering and Finding New Life" is a book of gentle, thoughtful, short meditations on the traditional 14 stations and the "15th station" of the Resurrection. The reflections are drawn from the homilies of the late Cardinal Joseph L. Bernardin, archbishop of Chicago from 1982 until his death in 1996. His editors saw the stations as a framework for the display of the many profound passages they had gathered from the archives of thousands of homilies.

With simple gray and white block-print illustrations, this is a beautiful companion book for praying the stations alone at any time of year or as a structure for the group service of Stations of the Cross which so many parishes conduct in Lent.

Holst taught religion and culture at the University of Calgary. Daly is book review editor for Catholic News Service.



Scripture-based 14 stations remove the three falls, for example, but add Jesus praying in the garden, being betrayed by Judas, being denied by Peter and comforting the good thief. In recent years the pope commissioned reporters to write devotionals linking the classic pilgrimage path to contemporary human experience in order to remind the faithful of the many who today suffer violently for justice as Jesus did.

In "The New Stations of the Cross," author Megan McKenna makes the pope's Good Friday devotional practice accessible to all Christians. Each step in Christ's passion narrative is introduced with several Gospel references, illuminated with simple but profound reflections and supplemented by gripping anecdotes from the lives of victimized people worldwide. A concluding prayer rounds out every meditation.

Pope John Paul's contemporary model of 15 stations is beginning to appear in churches and other pilgrimage sites. McKenna's book provides a useful

## Word to Life

Sunday Scripture Readings:  
March 30, 2003

March 30, Fourth Sunday of Lent  
Cycle B Readings:

- 1) 2 Chronicles 36:14-16, 19-23  
Psalm 137:1-6
- 2) Ephesians 2:4-10
- 3) Gospel: John 3:14-21

By DAN LUBY  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

Who hasn't seen the signs? At football stadiums and basketball arenas and NASCAR tracks — almost any televised sporting event shows a sign in the crowd: "John 3:16."

The reference is to a passage in Sunday's Gospel story. Jesus tells his frightened, secret disciple Nicodemus that "God so loved the world that he gave his only Son so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but have eternal life."

The next verse, seldom quoted in a sound-bite generation, clarifies God's purpose: "For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world but that the world might be saved through him."

God's love is indiscriminate. He doesn't wish to save only those who share the values and mindset and behaviors of one group of people. He doesn't yearn to transform the lives of only those who know and believe in him. He wants to save us all.

It's good news with two edges. We rejoice knowing how fervently God longs to save us and the people we love. We struggle sometimes to remember that God longs just as deeply to save people who are strangers, even enemies.

Relishing the downfall of the enemy, the savory, if grim, satisfaction arising from seeing someone we dislike come to a painful end, is harder to resist than we'd like to admit.

The question we wrestle with is this: Does such corrosive and short-sighted gratification put us among those who exclude themselves from the mercy of a God who loves all of his children with all his heart?

The challenge we must embrace is to be converted in our deepest selves so that our yearning for the happiness and salvation of all — those we love and those we call enemies — mirrors and serves the desire of God.

## Questions:

Whose example can I follow in learning to desire the good of my enemies? For what individual or group I find hard to accept will I pray in the days ahead?

## Scripture to Illustrate:

"But, he who acts in truth comes into the light, to make clear that his deeds are done in God" (John 3:21).

## Weekly Scripture

## Scripture for the week of March 30 - April 5

Sunday (Fourth Sunday of Lent), 2 Chronicles 36:14-16, 19-23, Ephesians 2:4-10, John 3:14-21; Monday (Lenten Weekday), Isaiah 65:17-21, John 4:43-54; Tuesday (Lenten Weekday), Ezekiel 47:1-9, 12, John 5:1-3, 5-16; Wednesday (Lenten Weekday), Isaiah 49:8-15, John 5:17-30; Thursday (Lenten Weekday), Exodus 32:7-14, John 5:31-47; Friday (Lenten Weekday), Wisdom 2:1, 12-22, John 7:1-2, 10, 25-30; Saturday (Lenten Weekday), Jeremiah 11:18-20, John 7:40-53

## Scripture for the week of April 6 - April 12

Sunday (Fifth Sunday of Lent), Jeremiah 31:31-34, Hebrews 5:7-9, John 12:20-33; Monday (Lenten Weekday), Daniel 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62, John 8:1-11; Tuesday (Lenten Weekday), Numbers 21:4-9, John 8:21-30; Wednesday (Lenten Weekday), Daniel 3:14-20, 91-92, 95, John 8:31-42; Thursday (Lenten Weekday), Genesis 17:3-9, John 8:51-59; Friday (Lenten Weekday), Jeremiah 20:10-13, John 10:31-42; Saturday (Lenten Weekday), Ezekiel 37:21-28, John 11:45-56

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Movie Review

# 'The Guys' are worth watching

By ANNE NAVARRO  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

NEW YORK (CNS) — In a bad year a fire department loses about six firefighters. On Sept. 11, 2001, one department lost nearly 350.

The audience is reminded of this startling fact in the moving drama "The Guys" (Focus).

It is not difficult to elicit an emotional response when discussing the tragic events of Sept. 11. But it takes keen sensitivity to respectfully present a story of two perfect strangers who comfort each other in a strange time of need without making the tale mawkish or emotionally manipulative. The journey embarked upon by the lead characters in director Jim Simpson's film captures the confusion, sadness and helplessness many felt directly after the tragedy.

Written by journalist Anne Nelson shortly after the attacks as a one-act play, "The Guys" was originally staged at The Flea Theater, one of New York's off-off-Broadway repertory companies located seven blocks from ground zero. Nelson based her piece on her own real-life working relationship that came about in the aftermath of the tragedy. In the film, as in the play, Sigourney Weaver plays Joan, a New York City journalist asked to help Nick (Anthony LaPaglia), a fire captain, write a series of eulogies for the firefighters he lost at the World Trade Center.

Not a writer to begin with, distraught Nick has no words with which to comfort the grieving families at their loved ones' funerals. Joan helps him put a human face on the heroes who gave their lives so willingly.

The actors offer sincere, affecting performances. The sorrow in LaPaglia's

eyes and his reluctance to accept help is believable. Weaver makes Joan's desperation to comfort Nick and to do something useful palpable. "After all, when have you ever heard of someone needing a writer?" says Joan. Through Nick, the audience becomes aware — if they weren't already — of the deep camaraderie shared by firefighters.

The audience is spared the harrowing images of the towers crumbling or of people running frantically away from the giant, billowing ball of smoke. But what is shown is just as upsetting because of the knowledge of what happened that day. A fuzzy black-and-white tape from the fire station security camera shows firefighters casually standing around until one, two, three, and then hundreds of pieces of paper fill the air, blowing about wildly. In the corner of the frame are imprinted the date and time: 9/11, 8:42 a.m. Then without hesitation, the firefighters are seen suited up and jumping on the fire truck which heads in the direction of the flying papers.

For most New Yorkers and those in the rest of the country, life mostly returned to normal. This is not callousness; this is life. Yet there is no way to emotionally detach oneself from the events of that day. And if the passions of that day have been deeply buried, this film is almost certain to stir them up.

Because of an instance of crass language, the USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-II — adults and adolescents. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG — parental guidance suggested.

*Navarro is on the staff of the Office for Film & Broadcasting of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.*



CNS PHOTO FROM PARAMOUNT PICTURES

### There's good stuff at 'The Core'

Aaron Eckhart and Hilary Swank star in a scene from "The Core," a lavish sci-fi thriller in which the earth's electromagnetic atmosphere has gone awry, necessitating a team of six to bore their spaceship into Earth's core to restabilize it. This lengthy disaster movie may be preposterous but is well-crafted and well-acted, and its special effects are impressive. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-II — adults and adolescents. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13 — parents are strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.

### Video Reviews

NEW YORK (CNS) — The following are video capsule reviews from the Office for Film & Broadcasting of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. Theatrical movies on video have a USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification and Motion Picture Association of America rating.

#### "The Face: Jesus in Art" (2001)

Exquisite documentary explores artistic representations of Christ through the ages and around the world, detailing how art attempts to comprehend and touch the divine by depicting the human Jesus. Visually stunning and further enhanced by remarkable special effects, a glorious music track and insightful narration, director Craig MacGowan's superb film allows the viewer to experience both great art and spiritual uplift. A few strong images of suffering and the Crucifixion. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-II — adults and adolescents. Not rated by the Motion Picture Association of America. (EBC)

#### "Jonah: A Veggie Tales Movie" (2002)

Whimsical, computer-animated retelling of the biblical story of Jonah and the whale, featuring a salad bar of Christian vegetables who sing and dance their way through this parable of God's unconditional love. Written and directed by Mike Nawrocki and Phil Vischer and based on the popular "Veggie Tales" video series, the movie's strong positive message is effective in reducing complex moral concepts to child-sized bites making it an appealing alternative to the glut of merchandise-driven flicks geared to younger audiences. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-I — general patronage. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is G — general audiences. (Artisan)



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## The Pope Speaks

POPE JOHN PAUL II

### Pope, heart heavy with news of war, urges Catholics to pray rosary

By JOHN NORTON  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — Nearly a week into a U.S.-led invasion of Iraq, Pope John Paul II said his heart was weighed down by reports coming out of the country, and he urged Catholics to continue praying the rosary for peace.

"It is so important that during this year of the rosary one perseveres in reciting the rosary to implore peace," he said March 26 at his weekly general audience.

Noting that on the previous day, the feast of the Annunciation, the church commemorated Christ's conception, the pope said, "Reciting the holy rosary, we meditated on this mystery with hearts weighed down by the news that reaches us from an Iraq at war, without forgetting the other conflicts that bloody the earth."

"May the maternal intercession of Mary obtain justice and peace for the entire world," he said.

In his main audience text, the 82-year-old pontiff offered a reflection on human frailty and the shortness of life. He based his meditation on Psalm 90, which examines that theme.

"Our existence is fragile like the grass that sprouts in the morning and withers in the evening. We are called, therefore, to recognize the shortness of our lives so that we may gain wisdom of heart," the pope said.

"In prayer we ask God that a reflection of eternity penetrates our brief lives and our actions. With the presence of divine grace in us, a light will shine on the passing of days, misery will become glory, and that which seems without sense will acquire meaning," he said.

At the end of the audience, the pope again confirmed his intention to visit the Marian shrine of Pompeii, south of Naples, Oct. 7 for the feast of Our Lady of the Rosary. He first publicly raised the possibility of a trip — which would be his second there — at a general audience last October.

### Making Lent Work

Ever since I was just a young girl I have had a practice of trying to find what I would call "the perfect book" to read during Lent. In my younger days, that was easier because I was too ignorant and too unscathed yet by life to have any real clues to what Lent really meant. I could settle for "feel-good" religious books.

It was only after life crucified me with searing pain that I understood Lent, the dark, dry time where we are always in danger of being immobilized, stunted in our journey, haunted by an all-too-elusive God. Lent for me became yearning for an essential lifeline — called hope.

Now every Lent I search for a book that will give me spiritual food, nourishing my hope that I'll keep moving forward on my ever-challenging spiritual journey. And this year I lucked out. I found not one book, but a trilogy, three books by author John Kirvan: "Raw Faith," "Silent Hope" and "God Hunger" (Sorin Books). From my life experiences, I could relate to what he wrote: "Our spiritual journey will not be a return to Eden, but a passage into mystery. Everywhere, in everything, in everyone, there is only God's silent, mysterious presence. The journey that begins in hunger, that is sustained by raw faith, is lived out in hope."

In each of these books, Kirvan seeks out "good company," noted spiritual writers and saints, from Simone Weil, Father Henri Nouwen and C.S. Lewis to St. Francis of Assisi, Dietrich Bonhoeffer and Dorothy Day. He takes their wisdom, added to his own, and gives us hope-filled "meditations meant for praying," as he puts it.

I could feel that this author has an overwhelming empathy for fellow humans, mirroring what he believes originates in God. As he put it, "Our true hope is in God's perfect vision of who we are and his faultless memory for the kind of creatures he made, walking monuments to imperfection." That's us! God looks on us with unconditional love. No wonder we should live with hope!

I called Kirvan to ask about his motivation in

## The Bottom Line

ANTOINETTE BOSCO  
CNS COLUMNIST



writing this trilogy, and I heard what I expected. For a generation, he has met people hurting for reasons that range from emotional trauma, debilitating illnesses and the devastation of AIDS to extreme poverty and discrimination — all trying to sustain their lives "with almost nothing to nourish them." They may have some "leftover fast food" from childhood religious exposure, but "people are starving to death" for God, he says convincingly.

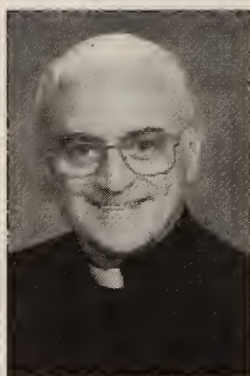
Being here, almost like a long Lent, "is life in the desert, and you just have to admit you're hungry," says Kirvan, who lets Simone Weil elaborate: "The danger is not that the soul should doubt whether there is any bread [God], but that, by a lie, it should persuade itself that it is not hungry."

Perhaps unknowingly, this author has defined Lent as I have learned it to be from my life experiences: "What counts is our willingness to go on walking when our souls ache and the vision that once fired our dreams is dim and hidden from us behind the walls of weariness."

But he moves beyond Lent, assuring us that "spirituality is about achieving a profound self-esteem, that is, coming to see ourselves as God sees us, the object of infinite love, unremitting solicitude, the bearers of God's greatest dreams for humanity." And that, I maintain, is our post-Lent legacy, given to us by Jesus on his Great Sunday.

## Spirituality for Today

FATHER JOHN CATOIR  
CNS COLUMNIST



### For the brokenhearted

This column is for the brokenhearted. Whether your pain is caused by the death of a loved one or any other experience of loss, my heart goes out to you.

I have come to learn that nothing happens to us in life unless it first passes through the hands of God. I also know that the Holy Spirit often leads us along paths we would not have chosen for ourselves. In other words, there is a supernatural reason for everything.

Cling to the truth that God is unchanging love. No matter what happens, know that God is at your side.

Jesus told us to turn to him for comfort. I do this every day when I look at the cross. I hear him saying, "Do you see how much I gave for you — how much I love you?" I find comfort focusing more on his love for me than on my woes and worries.

The silence of God is often terrifying, but once you realize that God speaks his Word of love to us every day, you can begin to heal. Jesus is God's messenger. He was sent to bring comfort to those who are brokenhearted and to help them become instruments of his healing love.

Being brokenhearted is not the tragedy it appears to be. It is a hidden gift. It opens a floodgate of tears, but it also introduces us to the hidden meaning

of holiness. The mystics tell us that one cannot become a saint unless one's heart is broken for God.

The goal of the saint is to accept whatever God sends, not merely with doleful resignation but with cheerful acquiescence. You may not be able to achieve that high goal just yet, but you can aspire to it. And if you ask, God will do for you what you cannot yet do for yourself.

Only when your heart has been broken for God do you really begin to grow. Offer your pain to the Father, as Jesus did in the Garden of Olives. You will receive God's kiss, and he will make you his apostle.

The word "apostle" means "messenger." (Log on to my Web site, [www.messengerofjoy.com](http://www.messengerofjoy.com), for more). In Hebrew the same word is rendered "Shaliach," that is, one who represents another. Jesus was given authority to speak in the name of his Father. He prayed that "the world may know that the Father has sent Me" (Jn 17, 22).

In the same way, Jesus wants to give you a new gift and a new status. You will no longer see yourself as a victim; you will learn to become a healer.

Jesus made it possible for us to become God's instruments of comfort and joy to those in need. Your broken heart can now serve you well. It will help you to understand human misery wherever you find it. God has opened your eyes for the purpose of communicating his compassion and love to those in need.

A broken heart can be the beginning of great things. Mother Teresa received the call to be a messenger at a time when she was in great sorrow. She broke through her misery and started a new religious community in 1949 called The Missionary Sisters of Charity.

You and I may not be able to reach the heights of Mother Teresa, but we can receive the same gifts of the Holy Spirit. With a little prayer, we can learn to become messengers of God's love and joy.



## Light One Candle

MSGR. JIM LISANTE  
GUEST COLUMNIST

### Two who wouldn't give up

Historical figures are just too remote. Many wonderful people have contributed to the world, but unless something singles them out, we don't pay all that much attention. Around the Martin Luther King, Jr., holiday this year, I came across profiles of some remarkable people. Two of them, in particular caught my eye. I think it was because despite their difficult, even desperate early years, they managed to create lives of hope, not only for themselves, but for others.

Harriet Tubman, called "The Moses of her people," was born into slavery on a Chesapeake Bay plantation in 1820. As a teenager, she watched the whipping of a fellow slave. She rose to defend him and she herself was beaten into unconsciousness.

The incident gave her the determination to risk her life for freedom. Unable to read or write, but guided by the North Star, she escaped to Pennsylvania. There she joined other folks who were resolved to abolish slavery. Later, as one of the founders of the Underground Railroad, she led hundreds of slaves to liberty. During the Civil War she acted as a spy and a scout for the Union forces. During one daring expedition she freed over 700 slaves.

One of the most eloquent tributes to her came from another American hero, Frederick Douglass. He wrote

to Harriet Tubman: "The difference between us is very marked. Most that I have done in the service of our cause has been in public and I have received encouragement. ... You have labored in a private way. You have wrought in the night. The most that you have done has been witnessed by a few trembling, scared and footsore bondmen whom you have led out of the house of bondage and whose heartfelt 'God bless you' has been your only reward."

A second woman who used her talents to make a difference for herself and for others was Mahalia Jackson. An orphan at six, forced to quit school in the eighth grade to go to work, she held a succession of menial jobs. Cook, laundress, hotel maid - she did whatever she had to keep going.

But Mahalia Jackson had one great joy and passion: singing. Though she never learned to read music, she joined her church choir. After she left her hometown of New Orleans for Chicago, she became a soloist for the Greater Salem Baptist Church, then traveled the country with a Gospel Crusade where she attracted attention for such songs as, "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands" and "I Can Put My Trust in Jesus." Eventually, her records would sell millions of copies.

She described the real force behind her beautiful music like this, "I have hopes that my singing will break down some of the hate and fear that divide the white and black people in this country."

Both Mahalia Jackson and Harriet Tubman had their own unique way of singing the glory of God. Each woman knew suffering and sadness. But neither would allow the miserable realities of her life, nor natural feelings of discouragement, to stop her from making the most of her life.

I can't pretend to imagine what it took for these brave women to succeed. But I do know that there's just too much good that has yet to be done. Mahalia Jackson and Harriet Tubman showed us two ways to go out and do it.

## Parish Diary

FATHER  
PETER J. DALY  
CNS COLUMNIST

### The war and our parish

In our parish, we are doing everything we can to support our troops. We want our young men and women who are serving our country to know our gratitude, love and support.

Every day at Mass we pray for the safety of those who are serving our country. At the same time we also pray for the innocent civilians of Iraq.

This past Sunday we tried to support a particular family that had made the ultimate sacrifice. We took up a poor-box collection for the widow and children of a young man from our community who was killed when his Army helicopter crashed in Afghanistan. His death got little publicity because the crash occurred the same day as the Shuttle disaster. Moreover it was on the forgotten front of Afghanistan. His young wife is disabled with MS. She is left to raise two young children on her own. Our parish was moved by her plight and donated nearly \$3,000 for her in the poor box.

We also try to remember our soldiers, sailors and airmen as they come and go. Our parish is sending a volunteer group to help at the USO lounge at the nearby airport where many young soldiers are shipping out on military flights.

While our whole parish wants to show support for our men and women in uniform, this does not mean that our whole parish agrees with this war. Far from it.

I, for one, think this war is morally dubious and legally questionable. It will lead us into a quagmire that we will not emerge from for years to come.

In fairness to President Bush, we have to admit that it is only the credible threat of force that has moved Saddam to accept inspectors at all or take even small steps to disarmament. Nevertheless, I agree more with the pope than the president on this issue.

Like the pope, I believe that an attack on a Muslim nation by a largely Christian nation risks creating an era of hostility between Christianity and Islam that will last for generations. It will be perceived as a new crusade.

This war may well radicalize a whole generation of Islamic youth. We will create another 10,000 volunteers to join the terrorists' ranks.

The Bush doctrine of pre-emptive war is contrary to the principles of international law and violates the Catholic tradition of the just war, which has been the cornerstone of the law of war. A pre-emptive war will contribute to instability in the world.

What argument will the United States make to other nations who want their own pre-emptive wars in places like Kashmir, the China/Taiwan Straights and the Korean peninsula?

I believe that the weapons of war are not the instruments of Christ or his followers. So long as there is a glimmer of hope for peaceful means, we should pursue them.

As a pastor I find this situation agonizing. For now, I am seeking a delicate balance. We should support our troops every way we can. At the same time we reserve the right to use the freedom that flows in part from their brave service to disagree with the government and speak for peace.

### Lenten regulations for fast and abstinence

*Q. Could you define the present Lenten regulations for fast and abstinence? We have observed them unchanged for several years. But now there seems to be confusion again. Catholic friends tell us that in their church they fast only until noon. Which is right? (Pennsylvania)*

A. The rules for fast and abstinence in the Latin church are the same as they have been for many years. In most places in the United States, perhaps in all dioceses now, Catholics over 14 years of age are obliged to abstain from meat and soup and gravy made from meat on Ash Wednesday and all Fridays of Lent.

On two days, Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, those over 18 and under 59 should fast. This means taking only one full meal and only liquids like milk and fruit juices between meals.

The size of the full meal and the two lesser meals depends on the individual's physical needs. One is excused from the whole obligation if his or her health or work would be seriously affected by abstaining or fasting.

While fast and abstinence remain a powerful and obligatory Christian spiritual discipline, the church's Lenten emphasis today is on prayer, participation in the liturgy, good works and voluntary self-denial much more than formerly.

From your question, I'm certain your friends are members of one of the many Eastern Rite Catholic parishes in your area. Traditionally, Lenten observances in these churches are as your friends told you. No food or drink (except water and medicine) may be taken on fast days from midnight to noon, for everyone between 18 and 65 years of age. Abstinence means no meat, or soup or broths made from meat, for people between 14 and 65.

Interestingly, in most Eastern churches the Great Lent begins two days earlier, on Ash Monday instead of Ash Wednesday, and ends on the Friday before Palm Sunday. The pre-Easter season is called the Great Lent because three other Lents have been observed in the Eastern Churches: the Lent of the Holy Apostles in June, Mary's Lent in August and the Lent before Christmas in November and December.

## Question Corner

FATHER JOHN DIETZEN  
CNS COLUMNIST

### Annulments and children

*Q. Recently a man was ordained to the priesthood in my parish. He was married twice and had several children. His first wife died; the second marriage ended in divorce.*

*The second marriage was annulled before he entered the priesthood. Since an annulment, as I and my friends understand it, means there was never a true marriage, does that make his children illegitimate? (Nebraska)*

A. If a man and woman were free from any impediment at the time of their marriage (if, for example, neither of them were validly married to someone else), church and civil law consider children born during their marriage as legitimate, even if that marriage is annulled sometime later.

Such unions are called putative marriages. This means that everyone, including probably the couple themselves, thought it was a marriage and there was no public reason to think otherwise.

The fact that some condition was present throughout the marriage that caused it to be annulled years afterward does not affect the legitimacy of their children.

*(A free brochure describing basic Catholic prayers, beliefs and moral precepts is available by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope to Father John Dietzen, Box 325, Peoria, IL 61651.)*





## Holy Angels presents Founder's Award

BELMONT — Richard M. Penegar was awarded Holy Angels' first-ever Founder's Award during a Board Appreciation Dinner March 20.

Regina Moody, president and CEO of Holy Angels, announced the establishment of the Founder's Award — named in memory of Mercy Sister Marie Patrice Manley, Holy Angels' founder — to honor an individual who has had a long-term relationship with Holy Angels, a private, nonprofit corporation providing residential services and programs for children and adults with varying degrees of mental retardation and physical disabilities.

Nearly 45 years ago, Penegar heard about a little girl named Maria and Sister Marie Patrice, who was phasing out her daycare to make room for infants with special needs. Penegar visited Sister Marie Patrice and volunteered his services.

Since then, Penegar has been an integral part of the history of Holy Angels — from serving as a member of the Holy Angels Board of Directors from its early days to starting in a small cottage on the grounds of Sacred Heart Campus. Penegar was a part of the growth and development

as Holy Angels outgrew that small cottage and expanded into what is now known as Holy Angels' Main Center.

After Sister Marie Patrice retired in 1982, Holy Angels experienced many changes, such as the addition of new programs and services based on community needs. Penegar would say: "It's for the children." He not only had a great love for the ministry of Holy Angels, he also had a great love for Sister Marie Patrice, Mother Benignus Hoban and the Sisters of Mercy — for their vision in beginning a much needed ministry.

After 45 years as a member of the Holy Angels Board of Directors, Penegar said he plans on retiring to make room "for new ideas and younger members." Also for his service and time, Penegar was named as the first Board Member Emeritus.

Programs of Holy Angels include the Holy Angels Residential Center, four Community Group Homes, four ICF/MR group homes (Intermediate Care Facilities for the Mentally Retarded), Little Angels Child Development Center, Great Adventures, Camp Hope and Cherubs Café & Candy Bouquets in downtown Belmont.

## BMCHS music director featured at festival

KERNERSVILLE — Dr. Alan Hirsh, music director at Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School, participated as a specially featured artist in the Southwest Guitar Festival in San Antonio, Tx., Jan. 29-Feb. 2. It was Hirsh's second year as a major presenter and conductor at the festival sponsored by the University of Texas at San Antonio.

Hirsh, the high school's music director for five years and recently named teacher of the year, is the founding director and conductor of the Piedmont Guitar Orchestra, headquartered in Winston-Salem and recognized



Dr. Alan Hirsh

for its excellency and virtuosity. Hirsh is also an accomplished composer and performer.

At the festival, Hirsh was featured conductor of the U.S./Mexico Guitar Orchestra that performed selections specially commissioned for the festival.

Hirsh is a graduate of the University of Arizona and holds a doctorate from Johns Hopkins' Peabody Institute. His original works appear in Mel Bay publications, and selections from his "Twenty Etudes" have been recorded on James Reid's CD, "Higher Ground."



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## DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRY

**St. Leo the Great Catholic Church located in beautiful Winston-Salem** is searching for a youth minister to continue an established Life Teen program centered on the Eucharist. We are seeking an enthusiastic, passionate, faith-filled individual to direct young people toward a meaningful, life-affirming journey with Christ.

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The Life Teen Mass is every Sunday at 5PM during the school year. Our awesome Life Teen band leads Praise and Worship songs, many original. We have a dedicated Core Team made up of singles and couples and a committed group of parent volunteers. Most important, however, are the 150 (and growing) young people who participate in our Spirit Night (Jr. Youth), Life Night (Sr. Youth), other activities and retreats. Also, recent additions to the Family Life Center feature a room dedicated to its youth, a Youth Minister's office, kitchenette and entertainment center.

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MUSIC,  
from page 1

gela Montague, St. Patrick School principal. "Experts say there's a close connection between music and math. We can substantiate that theory in that some of our best math students are in the band."

Montague believes the school's band program gives students an opportunity to discover their musical talents. "It helps prepare them for the middle school and high school band programs," she said. "We have two band recitals a year, which give students exposure to something they might not otherwise experience."

"We often hear about all the state testing students endure," said Michalski. "In music, they are tested every day. With 30 concerts per year, we put our product before the public for them to evaluate."

Alan Kaufman, Holy Trinity Middle School director of bands, said the music program is as enriching as any other class.

"It has been scientifically proven that playing a music instrument stimulates a certain part of the brain that helps children and adults in many intellectual, emotional and social skills," he said.

"There's an energy created by a band," said Kaufman. "When all are playing together, a sense of sharing, cooperation, personal and group accomplishment occurs."



PHOTO BY MARY MARSHALL

**Alan Kaufman, director of bands at Holy Trinity Middle School in Charlotte, directs the sixth-grade band.**

Holy Trinity Principal Jerry Healy believes that the spirit and camaraderie of the band members add a great deal to the cultural life of the campus.

At Holy Trinity, band classes meet every other day throughout the year. All band students are taught music theory and piano keyboard. Each instrument group gathers once a week for private group lessons; there, Kaufman teaches the finer points of the instrument that he is unable to address during band practice.

Kaufman, an accomplished percussionist, pianist and composer whose arrangements have been featured in performances by the Charlotte Symphony, writes band exercises on the computer and prints them out for stu-

dents to practice during their private sessions. Students rotate out of regular classes, accepting the responsibility of working with the teacher to make up their assignments.

"Without these private lessons, our program wouldn't be what it is today," said Kaufman. "Parents support the program by paying an extra fee in tuition for these lessons."

The band is not all classroom work. Each grade level has concerts and performs at special functions.

The sixth-grade band, under the direction of Kym Ledford, plays "The Star-Spangled Banner" at Knights Stadium. Parents, relatives, teachers and friends gather to support them.

The seventh-grade band plays two mini tours per year, one in the fall and one in the spring as they perform for the five elementary Catholic schools. And the eighth-grade band travels to the North American Musical Festival in Myrtle Beach, S.C. They have received excellent ratings for the past five years.

Two band students are members of the Charlotte Junior Youth Orchestra and sixth-grader Hilary Sharp made this year's All State Honors Band.

Kaufman has a wonderful rapport with the students. "I try to deal with each student on his or her own personal wave length," he said. "I give the students respect and they in turn give me respect."

Many of the middle school band members continue with the instrumental music program at Charlotte

Catholic High School where they participate in the concert band under the direction of David Shoff, director of instrumental music.

The 101 high school students also make up the marching band that performs at the football and basketball games and in numerous competitions. In recent regional competition at Gatlinburg, Tenn., they placed first in concert band performance as well as first in marching band. The jazz band, a select group of 21 members from the concert band, received a superior rating.

"Our band students exhibit excellent qualities of leadership and following directions as is shown in the marching band where they must memorize their music, learn the marching patterns and learn how to work together with different people to put together one product," said Shoff. "Colleges look for these students, recognizing their efforts and dedication."

"Directing these students is the most rewarding thing I have ever done," he said. "I love seeing the light go on in the students' heads and seeing them accomplish things they never imagined they could."

Another offspring of the concert band is the musical band, which will be playing for Charlotte Catholic's upcoming musical, "Hello, Dolly!" April 10, 11 and 12. On April 1, the concert band will compete at the district band competition in Shelby. The jazz band will play at St. Gabriel Church March 28 and April 4, and compete in the Jazz Festival at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte April 5.

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## Mexican nun among those to act as human shield in Iraq



CNS PHOTO FROM REUTERS

Sister Maria Luz Rodriguez Lopez speaks to a reporter at the Mexico City international airport March 5. She was among a group of Mexicans who were traveling to Iraq to act as human shields if the United States begins an assault on Iraq.

## Sisters of Mercy announce grants to area organizations

CHARLOTTE — Sisters of Mercy of North Carolina Foundation announced grant awards totaling \$336,076 to 11 non-profit organizations in both the Charlotte and Raleigh dioceses. Supported programs include crisis assistance, education, health care and social services.

The organizations are: Cabarrus County Partnership for Children in Concord; Chemical Dependency Center in Charlotte; Cleveland County Coalition for the Homeless in Shelby; Communities in Schools of Charlotte-Mecklenburg in Charlotte; Family

Guidance Center in Hickory; Food Bank of North Carolina in Raleigh; Helping Hands Clinic of Caldwell County in Lenoir; MANNA Food Bank in Asheville; Toe River Health District for Yancy County Student Health Centers in Burnsville; Youth Assistance Program of Cleveland County in Shelby; and YMCA of the Central Carolinas in Charlotte.

For information concerning the Sisters of Mercy of North Carolina Foundation, call (704) 336-0087 or [www.somncfdn.org](http://www.somncfdn.org).

## Nuns pledged to stay in Iraq

By CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, India (CNS) — Four Missionaries of Charity who operate an orphanage in Baghdad pledged to remain in the city despite military strikes by the United States.

The nuns who operate an orphanage in Baghdad said they refused to leave, even as U.N. volunteers, weapons inspectors and journalists exited ahead of the U.S.-led war, reported UCA News, an Asian church news agency based in Thailand.

"These children need us, we must look after them," a nun identified as Sister Densy told UCA News during a telephone interview March 19 from Baghdad.

It took numerous attempts over two days to connect with the convent's single phone line. Sister Densy and two of the nuns are from India; the fourth is from Bangladesh.

Navtej Sarna, spokesman for India's Ministry of External Affairs, said the Indian Embassy has requested that the 50 or so Indian citizens in Iraq leave "immediately," but that the Missionaries of Charity nuns refused to leave.

The nuns told embassy officials they want to stay during the war to look after the orphanage that Mother Teresa opened after the 1991 Persian Gulf War. The orphanage has 22 mentally and physically handicapped children.

"We have to take care of them. That is our duty," said Sister Densy, local superior of the congregation.

She said that the nuns and Vatican Embassy officials are getting through their fears "with prayers and our belief in our Lord."

Every day, the nuns and the two priests from the Vatican Embassy pray together and have adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. The embassy is five minutes away from the orphanage, she said.

Unlike others in Baghdad, the sisters have not stockpiled food, bought gas masks or dug underground bunkers.

"Food items are available just outside (the orphanage), and Our Lord will protect us," Sister Densy said.

Indian media reported Sister Nirmala Joshi, superior general of the

Missionaries of Charity, expressed her concern for the sisters in Baghdad, but said the nuns chose to remain there.

"As missionaries who have dedicated their lives to God in service to the poorest of the poor, our four sisters have freely chosen to remain with the crippled orphaned children of ages 2 to 12 who are under their care in Baghdad," Sister Nirmala said in a statement.

Indian journalist John Brittas, in Baghdad in the first half of March, said the nuns care for the "most vulnerable segments of orphans" who need help "even to sit up."

Brittas, New Delhi bureau chief of Kairali Television, said he spent an hour at the orphanage.

"Several Iraqis who lack enough food for themselves knocked on the nuns' doors with crates of eggs or whatever they have," he said.

"I saw the sisters very happy amid the children and hospitality of the Iraqis," he said.

About 200 Dominican nuns and friars in Iraq also have pledged to remain in the country in the event of war.

A March 14 letter from the 125 Dominican Sisters of St. Catherine of Siena, a Chaldean Catholic community, said they had two convents located on the edges of an army camp.

"Will the bombing kill the soldiers or the people?" the sisters asked. "We are living in great fright, panic and extreme worry."

The nuns said war would be a further injustice for Iraqi civilians, who have suffered enough under U.N.-imposed economic sanctions. In a plea for peace, the nuns said the Iraqi people, especially children, have been psychologically harmed by the threat of war.

Directing their comments to the American people, the nuns said, "You are deceived and we are captured by your mass media, which is the biggest liar."

"Our children, women and people are dying of malnutrition and starvation because of the inhuman sanctions. The sanctions have caused the death of 1.5 million Iraqi people, mostly women and children. Why do you want to finish them by a new war?" they said.

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"On the street I saw a small girl cold and shivering in a thin dress with little hope of decent meal. I became angry and said to God: Why did you permit this? Why don't you do something about it? For a while God said nothing. That night He replied quite suddenly: I certainly did something about it. I made you."

Anonymous

# The Catholic

## NEWS & HERALD

**Pope says Iraqi war must not turn into 'religious catastrophe'**

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APRIL 4, 2003

SERVING CATHOLICS IN WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA IN THE DIOCESE OF CHARLOTTE

VOLUME 12 No 28



PHOTO BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

Middle school students from around the diocese make rosaries during the Extreme Faith Middle School Youth Rally at St. Vincent de Paul Church in Charlotte March 29.

**Faith to the extreme**

## Youth rally explores Jesus, prayer, rosary

By KEVIN E. MURRAY  
ACTING EDITOR

CHARLOTTE — Middle schoolers from around the Diocese of Charlotte learned about the importance of prayer and making wise decisions at the Extreme Faith Middle School Youth Rally.

The annual event, featuring workshops, prayer and games, was held at St. Vincent de Paul Church March 29. This year's theme was "Jesus: Yesterday, Today and Forever."

"While our world changes and is often a chaotic, scary, uncertain place, Jesus is still the same," said Paul Kotlowski, diocesan director of youth ministry. "Jesus offers eternal peace, and if we know that peace, it goes beyond any doubt, fear or uncertainty that may come our way."

"The day gave the kids a

chance to meet and interact with others from different churches, and let them know that when they're in high school, it's still cool to love Jesus," said Emily Dillard, a member of the Diocesan Youth Advisory Council and a parishioner of Our Lady of Mercy Church in Winston-Salem.

While Kotlowski presented a session to youth ministers in attendance, students attended two of the following workshops: "Grab-bag Talents" discussed finding and utilizing hidden talents; "Modern Parables" modernized the parable of the sower through student skits; "Good and Bad in Life" explored the ups and downs in life; and "Crossroads: A Retreat and Journey" helped students realize decisions made today affect their tomorrow.

See RALLY, page 8

## On battlefields, chaplains called to save soldiers' souls, humanity

By CINDY WOODEN  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — Military chaplains on the battlefield must go beyond offering troops solace and work to save their souls by saving their humanity, said participants at a Vatican meeting.

"War has a dehumanizing effect on people," said Franciscan Father Louis V. Iasiello, deputy chief of chaplains for the U.S. Navy and the top chaplain of the U.S. Marine Corps.

War pushes combatants into a dog-eat-dog mentality and makes it easy for people to ignore "the roots of their common humanity," said Archbishop Renato Martino, president of the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace.

International conventions aim to protect the human rights and dignity of everyone caught up in a war, offering "a draft version, a foreshadowing of that peace for which even the

See CHAPLAINS, page 15



CNS PHOTO FROM REUTERS

Camouflaged Bible sits on chair at U.S. camp chapel in Kuwait.

**FIGHTING FOR LIFE**

## Partial-birth abortion ban passes

By CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The House Judiciary Committee voted 19-11 March 26 to pass the Partial-Birth Abortion Ban Act without any amendments.

The bill is now in position for a vote on the House floor and is expected to pass by a wide margin. The Senate passed a similar ban in mid-March and President Bush has vowed to sign the legislation into law.

"With the Judiciary Committee's passage of a ban on partial-birth abortions, the ban is one step closer to becoming the first federal law limiting abortion since Roe vs. Wade," said Cathy Cleaver, director of planning and information for the U.S. bishops' Secretariat for Pro-Life Activities.

"We applaud the committee's work on this crucial bill, and look forward to its passage by the full House soon,"

See BAN, page 8

Catholics and Lutherans pray for peace

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Mass reveals abilities of the disabled

...PAGE 5

"Sisters of Mercy answers God's call to lead, serve"

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### Catholics pray for neighborhood's streets, residents on Lenten walk

ST. LOUIS (CNS) — Residents of some city neighborhoods use noisy marches to demonstrate their desire to reclaim the area from urban decay, but members of a North St. Louis parish are trying to do so a little more quietly. A Lenten project under way at Our Lady of the Holy Cross Parish involves a private "prayer walk" for the Baden neighborhood. Individuals have picked the name of a street from a drawing and are praying daily for its residents, using a prayer written by the pastor, Father Mark Ullrich. By the beginning of Lent, the names of all 67 streets within the parish boundaries had been claimed — many more than once. "What a beautiful way to transform our community," Father Ullrich wrote in a recent parish bulletin. "It's taking back our neighborhood for the Lord, in a more quiet way," he said in a recent interview. "Our prayer life is part of who we are."

### Youth religiosity seen as factor in low tobacco, alcohol, drug use

WASHINGTON (CNS) — A new study indicates that religiosity serves as a buffering agent for adolescents that keeps them away from tobacco, alcohol and drug use. "Those adolescents who viewed religion as a meaningful part of their life and a way to cope with problems were half as likely to use drugs than (were) adolescents who didn't view religion as important," the study said. The study was published in the March issue of the journal *Psychology of Addictive Behaviors*. The study's results were comparable for students in grades seven through 10, the grades involved in the study, and among ethnic types, although Caucasians did not score quite as high as African-Americans and Hispanics. The results also cut across types of families: those with both parents at home, single-parent families, and "blended" families with one parent and one stepparent.

### Men pledge to fast monthly for spiritual growth of women

CARPENTERSVILLE, Ill. (CNS) — Men from around the world have pledged to fast for at least 24 hours



CNS PHOTO FROM REUTERS

**Men rush for food supplies in southern Iraq**  
Iraqi men rush to get food packages from British soldiers with the Tactical Supply Wing in the town of Safwan in southern Iraq March 31. British forces were supplying humanitarian aid to the local people.

once a month for the spiritual growth of their wives and other women and for any healing they may need. The new group, called *e5men*, takes its name from St. Paul's teachings in chapter 5 of *Ephesians*, which talks about the sacrificial nature of marriage and how men should lay down their lives for their wives, just as Christ sacrificed his body for the church. Members must be baptized Christian men who agree to fast on bread and water at least one day a month, traditionally on the first Wednesday of the month. Men also are encouraged to fast on other Wednesdays for women who have been hurt or abused by men. Since its inception in November, some 4,000 men in nearly 40 countries have committed to the monthly fasts. The project was begun by Steve Habisohn of Carpentersville as an outgrowth of his 5-year-old Gift

Foundation, a lay apostolate dedicated to promoting the Catholic Church's teachings on marriage and sexuality.

### Pope says encyclical will remind church of Eucharist's importance

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope John Paul II said he wrote a new encyclical on the Eucharist as a reminder of the importance of the sacrament for the church. The Eucharist is a lasting reminder of God's love, which was so great that he sent his only son to die for the redemption of all people, the pope said March 30 during his midday Angelus address. The encyclical is to be released on Holy Thursday, April 17. "Christ died and rose for us, sealing with his blood the new and definitive alliance with humanity," the pope told a crowd in St. Peter's Square. "The sacrament of the Eucharist is the last-

ing memorial of this supreme sacrifice," he said. "In it Jesus, the bread of life and true 'manna,' sustains believers on the journey through the 'desert' of history toward the 'promised land' of heaven."

### Access to water is right-to-life issue, Vatican tells conference

KYOTO, Japan (CNS) — Access to water for drinking, farming and sanitation is a basic human right that should be guaranteed explicitly by international law and assisted by international development programs, the Vatican said. The lack of safe drinking water and sanitation systems "all too often is the cause of disease, unnecessary suffering, conflicts, poverty and even death," said a Vatican document presented at the March 16-23 World Water Forum in Kyoto. "Water is a good that must serve for the development of the whole person and of every person," said Archbishop Renato Martino, president of the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace, which prepared the document. The document, "Water, An Essential Element for Life," discussed the religious and social significance of water, as well as its obvious connections to poverty, sickness and environmental destruction. The Vatican document said more than 1 billion of the world's people do not have access to adequate supplies of drinking water and that twice as many lack adequate sanitation.

### House calls for day of prayer, fasting to meet U.S. challenges

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The House of Representatives called for a national day of prayer, fasting and humility to ask for God's guidance in meeting the nation's challenges, to understand its failings and how its people can do better. In a vote of 346-49 March 27, the House approved a resolution asking the president to issue a proclamation designating a day "for humility, prayer and fasting for all people of the United States." The Senate passed a similar resolution March 17 to designate that day as a day for prayer, fasting and humility. The House resolution recited the history of previous congressional calls for prayer and fasting in times of war or national struggle.

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## Diocesan planner

### UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS April

**6 CHARLOTTE** — The St. Maximilian Kolbe Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order will be gathering today at 2 p.m. at Our Lady of Consolation Church, 2301 Statesville Ave. Those interested in learning more about the SFO and the Franciscan way of life are invited to attend. For more information, call Skyler Harvey, SFO, at (704) 545-8133.

**6 SALISBURY** — Sacred Heart Church, 128 N. Fulton St., will be celebrating a charismatic and healing Mass today at 4 p.m. Prayer and worship with prayer teams will be available at 3 p.m., and a potluck dinner will follow the Mass. Father John Putnam, pastor, will be the celebrant. For further information, call

Bill Owens at (704) 639-9837.

**7 CHARLOTTE** — The bereavement support group will meet tonight 6-7:30 p.m. and every first Monday in the family room at St. Gabriel Church, 3016 Providence Rd. This support group is for anyone who has experienced the loss of a loved one. For details, call Ruth Posey, CSS counselor, at (704) 370-3238.

**7 WAYNESVILLE** — St. John the Evangelist Catholic Community, 234 Church St., is offering a Lenten Retreat led by Father Scott Ness, OSA. The retreat theme is based on the Rule of St. Augustine and its implications for daily living. Dinner will be served each night at 5:30 p.m. and the talk will begin at 7 p.m. In addition, Father Scott will preach at morning Mass (9 a.m.) on the retreat days. For details, call (828) 456-6707.

**7 CHARLOTTE** — Christians in Career Transition is a ministry of St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy., devoted to helping people

in career crises. The meetings will take place on the first and third Mondays of every month 7-9 p.m. in the conference room. For more information, call Rev. Mr. Jim Hamrlik at (704) 576-0456.

**7 CLEMMONS** — Holy Family Church, 4820 Kinnamon Rd., will be celebrating a charismatic Mass tonight at 7:30 p.m. The sacrament of reconciliation will be given at 7 p.m., and the laying on of hands will take place after Mass. The next Mass will be celebrated on May 5. For more information, call the church office at (336) 778-0600 or Jim Passero at (336) 998-7503.

**8 CHARLOTTE** — The cancer support group for survivors, family and friends will meet today and every first Tuesday at 7 p.m. at St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy. For more information, call Marilyn Borrelli at (704) 542-2283.

**8 BELMONT** — Are you Catholic, but not an active member of your church? Do you feel unwelcome, "on the edge," "in exile," in your own church?



# Speaker says better ways needed to handle attention-deficit disorder

**NORTH SMITHFIELD, R.I. (CNS)** — Parents, teachers and religious educators must learn to deal more effectively with children who are suffering from attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder, a psychologist told participants at an annual religious education workshop sponsored by the Providence Diocese. Barry A. Plummer, an associate professor of psychiatry at Brown University Medical School and a clinical psychologist in private practice, said the disorder commonly known as ADHD is a medical condition, like muscular dystrophy and other conditions that affect children. The condition is based on brain chemistry and not caused by feeding children too much sugar or food additives or being a poor parent, he said. When a child has ADHD, he is unable to function within normal parameters, has a poor attention span, is impulsive, needs immediate gratification and cannot follow rules, according to Plummer. Other symptoms include often losing personal possessions and avoiding or showing a reluctance to be involved in tasks that require sustained mental effort, such as schoolwork or homework.

## Fire disrupts restoration at 97-year-old Chicago church

**CHICAGO (CNS)** — For St. Gregory the Great Church on Chicago's North Side, recovery from an early morning fire that broke out in the choir loft March 8 has meant more than just cleaning carpets and repainting. The 97-year-old Gothic church was nearing the end of a two-year project to clean and restore its ornate shrines and paintings, and now much of that work will have to be done over, said artist-in-residence Joe Malham. The fire was discovered when a woman who had arrived early to pray before daily Mass smelled smoke and notified the pastor, Father Bartholomew Winters. Her presence, at 7 a.m. on a Saturday, and the quick arrival of the fire department, saved the church building, despite heavy smoke and water damage to the interior.

The Catholic Church of Mary, Queen of Apostles, 503 N. Main St., offers a ministry for Catholics who are inactive in their own church, and wish to find a safe place to return. Catholics Returning Home will meet tonight 7-8:30 p.m. in the Church Family Center Library. Contact Dennis Teall-Fleming at [teallfleming@yahoo.com](mailto:teallfleming@yahoo.com) or (704) 868-9392 for more information, to find your place in the church again, or just to talk about your situation.

**8 CHARLOTTE** — The St. Gabriel Church Arthritis Support and Education Group will meet this morning 10-11 a.m. in Room D of the parish ministry center located at 3016 Providence Rd. For further details, call (704) 362-5047, ext. 217.

**9 BELMONT** — Cherubs Café by Holy Angels will host a Prayer and Share Breakfast each Wednesday of Lent at 7 a.m. This time offers patrons the opportunity to take a few moments from their busy schedules for a spiritual break with a light breakfast and a



CNS PHOTO BY OWEN SWEENEY III, THE CATHOLIC REVIEW

**Students sign banner for U.S. military troops**  
Students at Sacred Heart School in Glyndon, Md., sign a peace banner with words of support for U.S. military personnel serving in the Persian Gulf.

## Ecumenical group discusses role of pope in Christian unity

**WASHINGTON (CNS)** — At a March 13-15 meeting in Washington, the Faith and Order Commission of the National Council of Churches completed a response to Pope John Paul II's appeal for "a patient and fraternal dialogue" on how papal practices might be changed to allow the office of pope to serve Christian unity more effectively. Scholars representing more than 40 U.S. Protestant, Orthodox, Catholic and Anglican churches worked on the response. It is to be submitted to the Vatican's Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity, where similar responses from other churches and ecumenical bodies around the world are being collected. The U.S. commission is the most confessionally diverse ecumenical dialogue in the coun-

try, if not the world. It includes not only representatives of the NCC's 36 member churches, but Catholics and representatives of Pentecostal, African-American, Mennonite and Quaker churches that are not NCC members and are not part of the World Council of Churches' Faith and Order Commission. The wide ecumenical discussion of what Catholics call the Petrine ministry, or role of the bishop of Rome as a servant of church unity, was initiated by Pope John Paul in his 1995 encyclical on ecumenism, "Ut Unum Sint" ("That All May Be One").

## Hispanic women quietly advancing as leaders in U.S. church

**WASHINGTON (CNS)** — Dora Tobar has a doctorate in theology from the prestigious Jesuit-run Gregorian University in Rome and

has taught dogmatic theology at a major seminary in her native Colombia. Now, the mother of two toddlers is teaching theological anthropology to men studying for the diaconate in the Washington Archdiocese. "The Holy Spirit is moving to promote vocations among women," she said of her church career. Tobar is part of the growing number of Hispanic women quietly climbing the institutional ladder in the U.S. Catholic Church. Prior to her current teaching post, she worked for three years as religious education director for Hispanics at St. Catherine Laboure Parish in the Washington suburb of Wheaton, Md. The trend is spurred by the steady growth in highly educated, highly motivated Hispanic women, both those who are U.S.-born and those who are immigrants. This year, the U.S. bishops' Secretariat for Hispanic Affairs is organizing a series of regional meetings of Hispanic women in church leadership posts to discuss ways of recruiting more Hispanic women for church work and assisting them once they attain church posts.

## CNH wants to tell your story

*The Catholic News & Herald* is doing a faith-based story on families in the Diocese of Charlotte who have loved ones serving in the war with Iraq. If you have a loved one overseas, or know someone who does, and would like to participate, please contact Acting Editor Kevin E. Murray at (704) 370-3334 or e-mail [kemurray@charlottediocese.org](mailto:kemurray@charlottediocese.org).

scriptural-based message.

**9 GREENSBORO** — Many of us want to do "something extra" during Lent. The Greensboro Council of Catholic Women concludes their annual Lenten mini-retreat today at St. Benedict Church, 109 West Smith St. Mass will be at 10 a.m. followed by refreshments. For information call Janet Law at (336) 288-6022.

**9 CHARLOTTE** — The 50+ Club of St. John Neumann, 8451 Idlewild Rd., will be conducting a meeting this morning at 11 a.m. with a program and lunch in the parish center. The program will be presented by Ramona Moore on the topic of the Native American. For more information, call Lucille Kroboth at (704) 537-2189.

**9 HIGH POINT** — Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, concludes its Lenten series "The Beatitudes: Gospel Attitudes for our Times" tonight at 7:30 p.m. in the Gathering Space of IHM, corner of Johnson St. and Skeet Club Rd. Mary Pollard will present

"Preservation of Undervalued Life as a Beatitude Commitment: What about the Death Penalty?" For further information, please call (336) 869-7739.

**10 GREENSBORO** — A Rachel Network Evening of Prayer for Post-Abortion Healing will be held tonight at 7 p.m. at St. Pius X Church, 2210 N. Elm St. This service is open to anyone who is experiencing issues related to abortion, whether their own or that of a friend or family member. Your participation is anonymous and individual confession with a priest is available following the prayer service. All communication is confidential. Men and women of any denomination are welcome. For more information, contact Dr. Martha Shuping at (336) 659-1342 or e-mail [mshuping01@sprynet.com](mailto:mshuping01@sprynet.com).

**11 MAGGIE VALLEY** — If you or someone you know is struggling with the emotional or spiritual pain of an abortion, Rachel's Vineyard weekend

retreats are a beautiful opportunity to experience the mercy and compassion of God. The retreat, which takes place April 11-13, will help your soul find a voice and transform the pain of the past into love and hope. For more information or to register call Shelley at (828) 684-4330 or Paula at (828) 684-8022.

**12 CHARLOTTE** — The Vietnamese Cursillo community will meet at 7:30 p.m. tonight and every second Saturday of the month for a school of leaders at St. Thomas Aquinas Church, 1400 Suther Rd. For further information, call Ky Do at (704) 532-9094.

**14 FRANKLIN** — The Women's Guild of St. Francis of Assisi Church, 299 Maple St., will be having their monthly meeting tonight at 7 p.m. in the Family Life Center. The meetings feature guest speakers and special events periodically. For more information, call Claire Barnable at (828) 369-1565.



# Catholics and Lutherans pray for peace

*Annual event features prayers, skits and music*

By ELLEN NEERINCX SIGMON  
CORRESPONDENT

HICKORY — A young soldier, waiting in his tent near Iraq for the start of Desert Storm, has a long talk with God. Ten years earlier, he lost his parents in an automobile accident, and he blamed God for it.

"It's hard to stop a feeling that you've had for ten years," he says to God. "I needed my parents when I was 10."

Then he tells God that he got baptized in the back of a dump truck filled with water yesterday, after talking with another soldier in his outfit who is a Christian. "I would like a second chance," he tells God. "I would like some time to think things through, but if I don't have that time, will it be enough? Will this baptism take?"

David Alfredhsson of the Covenant Players performed this scene as part of a meditation during the Service of Word and Prayer for Peace at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church March 30. The Hickory Roman Catholic/Lutheran Covenant Committee sponsored the event.

Approximately 60 people attended the service and prayed for the nations of the world, for the leaders of the nations, for the United States, for the soldiers, for the enemies and for the victims of war. They prayed for peace, using the Prayer of St. Francis, and they prayed for healing.

The Covenant Players performed four skits at the service for the members of the four covenant congregations — St. Aloysius Catholic Church; and Holy Trinity, Mt. Olive and St. Andrew's Lutheran churches. Covenant Players is a non-profit international theater ministry based in Oxnard, Calif. Over 100 teams of actors travel worldwide to perform plays dealing with issues such as drug and alcohol abuse, values, goals, positive self-image, ethics and morality.

The teams perform in churches, schools, military bases, hospitals, retirement homes or any other place they are invited. The ministry is funded by the performances and by donations. The



PHOTO BY ELLEN N. SIGMON

Rev. Richard Fritz of St. Andrew Lutheran church; Vicar Jason Peterson of Mt. Olive Lutheran church; Rev. Mr. Tom Rasmussen, permanent deacon at St. Aloysius Catholic Church; Rev. Dave Keck of Mt. Olive; and Revs. Deb Michaels and Bob Shoffner of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church at the Service of Word and Prayer for Peace March 30.

three-member team who performed skits dealing with themes of forgiveness and community included Alfredhsson, Maxima Mullisaca and Wendy Cyr.

One skit, a take-off on entertainers Bud Abbott and Lou Costello's "Who's on First" comedy routine, depicted a woman meeting up with God at a family reunion. In another skit, a woman talks with and forgives a former co-worker who had caused her to lose her job.

The Hickory Roman Catholic/Lutheran Covenant Committee was formed in 1991 when representatives from the churches met to discuss issues of mutual interest. The meetings began in response to the Day of Pentecost signing of the statewide covenant between the Diocese of Charlotte, the Diocese of Raleigh and the N.C. Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

This is the third consecutive year that the local group has sponsored a joint service during Lent.

Representatives from each church participated in the prayers and music during the service, including Rev. Mr.

Tom Rasmussen, permanent deacon at St. Aloysius; Revs. Bob Shoffner and Deb Michaels from Holy Trinity; Rev. Dave Keck and Vicar Jason Peterson from Mt. Olive; and Rev. Richard Fritz from St. Andrew.

Other members of the churches provided organ and flute music, and served as cantor and readers during the service.

## Conference to renew faith

GREENSBORO — The annual Catholic Renewal Conference, this year themed "Go and Tell," will take place at Greensboro College May 30-June 1.

The Catholic Renewal Conference, made possible by the Catholic Renewal Service Team of the Diocese of Charlotte, allows Catholics from across the state to join together in a spirit of praise and worship, celebrate Mass, join in prayer groups, enjoy Christian music and listen to teachings of featured speakers, this year including Redemptorist Father Tom Forrest.

In 1971, Father Forrest joined the Charismatic Renewal and with Father Diego Jaramillo of Columbia played a role in the development of E.C.C.L.A., the Charismatic Renewal Center for Latin America.

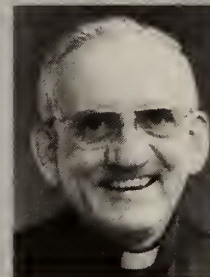
In 1978, Father Forrest was elected director of the International Office and Chairman of the International Council for Catholic Charismatic Renewal. He has spoken in 104 countries, and his articles and books translated into a number of languages. He has met and spoken with Pope John Paul II many times.

Other speakers are Father Manuel Sundaram of India and Hannah Hammer, a veteran teacher of Catholicism and parishioner of St. Pius X Church in Greensboro.

Seating capacity is limited. On-campus housing, meals and childcare are provided. For registration information, contact Melodie Manna at (336) 760-1110.

## Catholic Renewal Conference

Fr. Tom Forrest, CSSR  
International Director of  
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# Mass reveals abilities of the disabled

By KAREN A. EVANS  
STAFF WRITER

CHARLOTTE — Beth Kennedy spoke deliberately, making sure to pronounce each word clearly as she read from the Second Book of Chronicles: "In those days, all the princes of Judah, the priests and the people added infidelity to infidelity ..."

Kennedy, who has Down syndrome, served as the reader at the afternoon Mass at St. Gabriel Church March 30. She was one of 30 young people with mental or physical disabilities who participated in the Mass as part of Mental Retardation Awareness Sabbath/Sunday.

"We realize that there are no disabilities in God's eyes," said Msgr. Richard M. Bellow, pastor of St. Gabriel, as he welcomed the congregation. "In his eyes, we are all perfect."

As a part of the mission of The Arc, Mental Retardation Awareness Sabbath/Sunday provides an opportunity for churches, synagogues and other religious organizations to recognize the needs and abilities of people with mental retardation and other developmental disabilities and their families.

The Arc of Mecklenburg County is a chapter of The Arc of the United States, a national organization that is dedicated to enhancing the lives of people with mental retardation and related developmental disabilities.

The Mass was coordinated by St. Gabriel Church disABILITY Ministry, established in 1995 to enrich the faith community by enabling those people with physical or mental disabilities to worship, attend social events, take classes and participate fully in parish life.



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

A hand chime choir performs at the Awareness Sunday Mass at St. Gabriel Church. Members of the choir are residents of a group home sponsored by the United Methodist Agency for the Retarded.

"It is hoped that those involved in the religious community will encourage their participation in activities from worship services to study groups to recreational activities," said Mary Kennedy, a member of the disABILITY Ministry and Beth's mother.

Through financial assistance from St. Gabriel Church, a grant from the N.C. Council on Developmental Disabilities, memorials and other donations, the disABILITY Ministry has been able to improve St. Gabriel and other campus buildings to be more accessible.

The ministry also sponsors social events throughout the year for those with developmental disabilities, including dances and bingo games. Approximately 120 people attended the most recent dance

and about 90 people participated in the bingo game in January.

"The ministry works with various organizations in the community to welcome them to our parish," said Mary Kennedy. "It certainly is great to hear 'When can we come back to your church again? We like coming here.'"

Approximately 30 people with disabilities actively participated in the service, including the musical presentations, readings, assisting the ushers, acting as greeters and presenting the gifts. Among the 1,100 members in the congregation were many people with disabilities attending the Mass with their families or group homes.

Several participants, including the hand chime choirs led by Ann Lake, live in

group homes run by United Methodist Agency for the Retarded (UMAR). Lake is a residence counselor for UMAR, a not-for-profit organization that provides safe, accessible housing for developmentally disabled adults, allowing them to live in their communities as independently as possible.

At the conclusion of the Mass, a class from Allegro Foundation presented an interpretive movement program to the hymn "How Great Thou Art," which was performed by Brian Johnson, a member of Sharon Presbyterian Church.

Under the leadership of founder and Executive Director Pat Farmer, Allegro Foundation serves 250 children with mental retardation, Down syndrome, spina bifida, cerebral palsy and learning disabilities, as well as physically and emotionally abused children. The foundation combines movement instruction with educational and medical knowledge to create a new approach to teaching disabled children and to enhance their quality of life.

According to Kennedy, the reason that Awareness Sunday is celebrated as part of a Catholic Mass, as opposed to a non-denominational prayer service, is because the ministry wants the faith services to be inclusive.

"We want people with mental or physical disabilities to be a part of our church family," said Kennedy. "For a church the size of St. Gabriel, there has been very little participation by our own members with disabilities, and we cannot explain that. We are just prayerful that through this Mass and the activities we offer, they will feel welcomed and led to participate."

The Mass also serves to open up the eyes of many more people to the abilities of our loved ones, Kennedy said.

"The response to Beth over the last eight years has been wonderful," said Kennedy. "People who may never have taken the time to speak to someone with a disability like Down syndrome now come up to her freely, and she feels very happy about that."

See DISABLED, page 14

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### Path to Peace Award to go to East Timor's first president

NEW YORK (CNS) — The 2003 Path to Peace Award will be given to Xanana Gusmao, president of the Democratic Republic of East Timor, the Vatican nuncio to the United Nations announced. In a letter March 20 to supporters of the Path to Peace Foundation, Archbishop Celestino Migliore said the award will be presented June 12 during the foundation's annual fund-raising event, a dinner cruise in the New York harbor. Archbishop Renato R. Martino, former U.N. nuncio who became president of the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace last fall, established the foundation in 1991 to finance projects related to the Vatican's U.N. mission, and served as its president until his transfer to his new post. Archbishop Migliore told Catholic News Service that Gusmao worked hard and served years in prison to further human rights and the rights of people in East Timor. Gusmao "played the role of a moderate" in the struggle for independence, and supported dialogue of the East Timorese with Indonesia and international participants, Archbishop Migliore said.

### Bishop Dziwisz, pope's personal secretary, hospitalized for tests

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope John Paul II's longtime personal secretary, Bishop Stanislaw Dziwisz, was hospitalized for tests after feeling ill March 29, a Vatican official said. The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the 63-year-old bishop was not in serious condition and was expected to be released after several days of tests and observation. According to the Italian news agency ANSA, Bishop Dziwisz was admitted to the cardiac ward of Rome's Gemelli Hospital after feeling exhausted. Bishop Dziwisz, whose formal title is adjunct prefect of the pontifical household, has served as Pope John Paul's personal secretary for nearly four decades.

### Connecticut basketball coach has high praise for Catholic education

HARTFORD, Conn. (CNS) — Ask Geno Auriemma, head coach of the University of Connecticut women's



CNS PHOTO FROM POOL VIA REUTERS

**Funeral of Daniel P. Moynihan, former senator from New York**  
Pallbearers carry the casket of Daniel Patrick Moynihan from St. Patrick's Church in Washington March 31. The former senator, a New York Democrat, scholar-statesman and Catholic, died March 26. He was 76.

basketball team, what he wants for his son and his answer is a slam dunk: the same good quality Catholic education he received. Auriemma told attendees at a March 19 breakfast hosted by Hartford Archbishop Daniel A. Cronin that what he received from his own Catholic education was a sense of values, a sense of something bigger than himself. "It started when I was an altar boy," said the coach, whose son attends St. James School in Manchester. "I learned to stand up for my faith, not the homogenized neutrality we see in some Catholics today."

### 'Quad King' not afraid to talk about his Catholic faith

PHILADELPHIA (CNS) — Timothy Goebel, the reigning Olympic bronze medalist who won his second

consecutive silver medal in the World Figure Skating Championships March 27, loves his Catholic faith and isn't afraid to talk about it. Goebel, 22, is also known as the "Quad King" because he has landed more quadruple jumps in competition — close to 70 — than anyone in the history of figure skating. Five years ago in Switzerland, Goebel made history as the first American skater to land a clean quadruple jump in International Skating Union competition. At the same time, he became the first skater in the world to land a quadruple Salchow — a three-part jump. The skating champion said that as a Catholic and "as somewhat of a public figure" he thinks it is important to be a good example to others. "I try to be a role model and pray for the grace to be an example of Catholic

virtues to others. I attend Mass at least once a week, but really make an effort to go twice a week," he said.

### Six Tennessee priests spend a day as 'warehouse warriors'

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. (CNS) — Six priests of the Diocese of Knoxville were to make their national cable television debut April 1 on the "Warehouse Warriors" series on DIY, the Do It Yourself network. The weekly show, a sort of "Survivor" for do-it-yourselfers, pits two teams of three against each other and the clock. The priests' task? To build a coffee table that would be judged on its design, execution and creativity. Oh, and they had to finish the job in eight hours. The "warriors" had access to identical stores of building materials and tools and were aided by carpenters Jay Baker and Scott Branscom, although the priests were wholly responsible for their projects' design. The countdown started around 9 a.m. and ended with an air-horn blast eight hours (plus a lunch hour and a few short breaks) later. "It was really fun to see how a TV show is made," said Father Ragan Schriver, executive director of Catholic Charities of East Tennessee and a member of the "blue team," whose free-form tile-topped coffee table emerged victorious.

### Dominican priest named rector of Detroit archdiocesan seminary

DETROIT (CNS) — Dominican Father Steven Boguslawski, dean of studies at Sacred Heart Major Seminary since July 2001, has been named rector of the Detroit archdiocesan seminary. The 46-year-old priest will be the first religious order priest to serve as rector of the seminary. He will officially become the 11th rector and president of the seminary May 1, and will replace Father Patrick Halpenny, rector pro tem since the previous rector, then-Auxiliary Bishop Allen H. Vigneron, left to become bishop of Oakland, Calif., in January. Father Boguslawski, ordained a priest in 1987, said both those who seek holy orders and those who seek lay ecclesial ministry must be "doctrinally informed." He earned several degrees, including his licentiate in sacred theology, from the Dominican House of Studies in Washington and from Yale University.

JOHN T. WEISENBERGER



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# Diocese of Charlotte reduces 2003-2004 budget

*Actions include eliminating positions, program expenses*

By KEVIN E. MURRAY

ACTING EDITOR

CHARLOTTE — The Diocese of Charlotte is eliminating some positions and reducing other expenses in order to achieve a balanced budget for the 2003-2004 fiscal year.

The reductions, needed to cover an anticipated revenue shortfall of \$900,000 are primarily the result of poor returns on investments and reduced revenues from fees and grants, according to Msgr. Mauricio W. West, diocesan administrator.

Annual giving appeals for both diocesan ministries and schools are currently on track as compared to last year, although contributions to Catholic Social Services, Hispanic Ministry and Campus Ministry are down, said Msgr. West.

The reductions will be implemented within diocesan offices, agencies and ministries. Parishes and their ministries within the 46-county diocese will not be financially affected by

these reductions.

After exploring several alternatives to reduce the budget, the diocese decided to eliminate 12 positions — five full-time and seven part-time. Three of the above positions are currently unfilled.

Other administrative changes include eliminating annual raises and reductions in administrative and program expenses.

The Diocese of Charlotte's cost cutting is not a result of payments made in sexual misconduct cases, nor has the diocese sent any funds to other dioceses in the settlement of such cases.

"Regrettably, we must implement these reductions in order to continue providing ministry and service to the people of western North Carolina," said Msgr. West. "By relying on the continued generosity of our donors and the implementation of these reductions, we anticipate these necessary actions will cover the shortfall projected for the 2003-2004 year."

## Lenten reflections



COURTESY PHOTO

Pictured are (front row from left) Kellie Fischer (and daughter), Mary Ann Heyer, Barbara Dawson, Mary Garris, Christopher Martin, (second row from left) Emily Lambert, Corrine Yager, Jackie Rapadas, Louise Edwards, Rose Ann Maiden, (back row from left) Jane Snyder, Frank VanDenBerghe, Walt Deppe, Vince Cerullo and Bob Foley.

## Parish reflects on Stations of the Cross

By KEVIN E. MURRAY

ACTING EDITOR

ALBEMARLE — To celebrate Lent, Our Lady of the Annunciation Church held a unique service March 21.

While the church presents Stations of the Cross every Friday during Lent, the Parish Stations of the Cross was a new opportunity for parishioners to gather in reflection and prayer.

Fifteen parish groups each wrote and read a reflection based on a particular Station of the Cross. Groups included the parish choir; Bible study; MOMS (Ministry of Mothers Sharing), which includes several non-Catholic members; and sixth-, seventh- and eighth-graders involved in faith formation.

"It was very well received," said Louise Edwards, a "very active parishioner" at Our Lady of the Annunciation. "People appreciated the idea of reflecting on

the personalized Stations instead of reading something someone else had written."

Inspiration for the service began at a diocesan adult education mini-symposium held last November in Asheville, at which parish catechetical leaders shared ideas. Edwards, who attended the event, synthesized aspects of several programs and worked with Father Lawrence Heiney, pastor, to create the parish service of devotion, reflection, community and season.

"During Lent, it's part of our remembrance of what the Lord suffered through to give us salvation and redemption," said Edwards, "and to remember how well-loved we are that he would make this sacrifice for us."

Contact Acting Editor Kevin E. Murray by calling (704) 370-3334 or e-mail [kemurray@charlottediocese.org](mailto:kemurray@charlottediocese.org).



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## RALLY, from page 1

rows.

"We learned that decisions can affect your entire life," said Craig Dotson, 14, of Immaculate Conception in Hendersonville.

"We talked about choices and the consequences of choices," said Terry Aiken, youth minister at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church in High Point who facilitated the "Crossroads" workshop. "The basis to make good decisions comes from Scripture, especially from Luke. So we concentrated on making it contemporary to use Scripture as a guide."

"The Grab-bag Talents workshop was to get kids not to hide their talents and to reach their fullest potential," said Jason Higgins, youth minister with Haywood County Youth — the youth ministry for St. John Church in Waynesville, St. Margaret Church in Maggie Valley and Immaculate Conception Church in Canton.

"It went well and I think the kids got it," said Higgins.

All students participated in the "Jesus: Today, Forever and Always Through the Rosary" workshop, presented by Heather McCaa and Lisa Underwood. Students learned about Jesus' life through praying the rosary.

"The rosary is something they can use to pray for peace in this world," said McCaa, "but praying the rosary can also help lead to peace within themselves, for what they are going through in their lives."

McCaa explained the Joyful, Sorrowful and Glorious mysteries of the rosary, as well as the new Mysteries of Light, the five mysteries on the life of Jesus that Pope John Paul II added to the traditional rosary meditations.

"You're a part of history ... a part of



PHOTO BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

**Middle school students make rosaries at the Extreme Faith Middle School Youth Rally at St. Vincent de Paul March 29.**

time when new mysteries are introduced," said McCaa to the group. "You're really lucky to be alive while this is going on."

The students also learned how to make their own rosaries.

During the lunch break, students participated in a water relay, obstacle course, pick-up ball games and other fun activities.

The event received high marks from the young participants.

"I think it was fun, because we got to communicate with others from different churches and talk about our faith," said Jessica Sisk, 13, of St. James Church in Concord.

"We did a lot of fun stuff, and we learned how to make good choices," said Corey Swanda, 13, of St. Vincent de Paul Church.

Contact Acting Editor Kevin E. Murray by calling (704) 370-3334 or e-mail [kemurray@charlottediocese.org](mailto:kemurray@charlottediocese.org).

## Asheville Eagle Scout



COURTESY PHOTO

ASHEVILLE — Jarred Dawson, 17, a member of the Basilica of St. Lawrence in Asheville, recently earned the rank of Eagle Scout, the highest honor in Boy Scouts. He has also earned an Eagle palm by completing five additional merit badges.

For his project, Dawson built an outdoor retreat area consisting of a picnic area, fruit trees and a flowerbed for mentally challenged adults. Dawson is head altar server at the basilica, a member of the Rock for Life youth group and a junior at A.C. Reynolds High School.

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## BAN, from page 1

she added in a statement.

"It is encouraging to see our elected officials responding to the voices of so many that hold life as sacred," said Maggi Nadol, director of Catholic Social Services Respect Life Office in the Diocese of Charlotte. "A ban on partial-birth abortion is one step in ensuring that babies will not face a violent, gruesome death."

During a March 25 hearing on the legislation, experts in obstetrics and gynecology testified that the partial-birth procedure is "excruciatingly painful" for the unborn child. Dr. Mark Neerhof, assistant professor of clinical obstetrics and gynecology at Evanston Northwestern Healthcare in Evanston, Ill., also explained the health risks to women from partial-birth abortions.

"According to Dr. Neerhof, partial-birth abortion exposes the unborn human to levels of pain that would fail the federal standards for humane treatment of animals in medical research," Cleaver said. "It is unconscionable that women and children have been made to suffer so needlessly from this procedure."

Rep. Steve Chabot, R-Ohio, who introduced the legislation in the House, said a "moral, medical and ethical consensus exists that partial-birth abortion is an inhumane procedure that is never medically necessary and should be prohibited."

The House version of the legislation does not include the nonbinding resolution in the Senate version that endorsed Roe vs. Wade, the 1973 Supreme Court decision legalizing abortion, and said it secured an "important constitutional right."

House committee members who opposed the partial-birth abortion ban as unconstitutional had proposed several amendments to loosen the bill's restrictions, including a provision to eliminate prison terms for doctors who perform the procedure that failed in a 15-8 vote.

"We realize many women are faced with unexpected pregnancies, but surely, as a civilized society and a people of faith, we must be able to offer these mothers a better answer than abortion," said Nadol.

Acting Editor Kevin E. Murray contributed to this story.



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FIGHTING FOR LIFE

# 'Roe,' 'Doe' join 700 women asking Supreme Court to hear case

By WILLY THORN  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — The "Roe" and "Doe" of Roe vs. Wade and Doe vs. Bolton, the 1973 Supreme Court decisions legalizing abortion, have joined 700 women asking the high court to hear a case that seeks a definition of what rights women injured by abortion have under the law.

The new case, Donna Santa Marie et al. vs. Whitman et al., would be the first of its kind to be heard by the court.

In the case of Donna Santa Marie, a pseudonym for lead plaintiff Rosa Acuna, a New Jersey appeals court in November 2002 ruled a woman can sue her doctor for not giving her abortion details. The ruling reversed a previous court's dismissal of the case.

"Whitman" in the case name is for Christine Todd Whitman, who was New Jersey governor at the time the suit was filed.

Roe vs. Wade says informed consent "is supposed to be the law of the land," Allen E. Parker Jr. said. "And yet when they sued for the wrongful death of their children the (lower) courts in New Jersey said ... the child (since it was born dead) is worth nothing because of Roe vs. Wade."

Parker, CEO and founder of Texas Justice Foundation, represents both Norma McCorvey and Sandra Cano, the original "Roe" and "Doe," respectively. He also filed the amicus curiae, or friend-of-the-court, brief with the court for the 700 women.

"My case was used by the Supreme Court to justify the horrible harm done to these women," McCorvey said March 24 at a press conference at the National Press Club to announce the McCorvey and Cano brief and the brief for the 700 women. "It is unjust to allow women to be injured by abortion with no legal remedy for the loss of their child."

"This is not a matter of pro-choice," she said. "We can surely all agree that no woman should be forced to have an abortion against her will in America."

She was joined at the press conference by 17 of the 700 women who signed affidavits testifying they had abortions against their will or without their informed consent.

One by one, they told gripping and often gruesome tales.

When they had their abortions, nearly all the women were young and were supporters of legal abortion. Many of them said that, frightened by unsupportive families and boyfriends, they visited doctors or clinicians after learning they were pregnant and were told that removing "the blob of tissue" would be quick and painless and solve their problems so their lives could get back to normal.

Many testified to experiencing intense emotional pain afterward — plummeting self-esteem, self destructiveness, abundant anger, grief, regret, guilt and shame — and said they numbed the pain by becoming workaholics or abusing drugs and alcohol.

Broken and abusive relationships followed, often paired with promiscuity, and repeat crisis pregnancies.

Some of the women said they were incapable of celebrating holidays, such as birthdays and Christmas. Others said they could not bond with children they did give birth to or had aversions to infants. Some have suffered sterility, intense nightmares or became suicidal.

One thing each of the women said repeatedly was, "I was never told ..."

"Information has been withheld," said Karen Keitzman, of a group called Silent No More. "We were not given referrals to counselors, (or for) adoption. (We were) just told abortion is the answer. We were never shown the fetal models."

If "you're going to have the baby, they show you all this information. ... With abortion, it (information) is not there," she said.

Keitzman argued that abortion is a medical, not political, issue because state health departments have not regulated abortion clinics or protected women who go to them.

Abortion remains a largely unregulated industry, according to the speakers at the press conference.

Even veterinary clinics in New York are required to follow more guidelines than abortion clinics, said Pia de Solenni, policy analyst for the Family Research Council.

In an interview with Catholic News Service, Cathy Cleaver, director of planning and information in the U.S. bishops' Secretariat for Pro-Life Activities, said that "there's no question the treatment given women at your average abortion clinic leaves much to be desired. ... The rights of women are routinely trampled."

Every person, for instance, "has the right to have all reasonable information before undergoing any surgery," she said.

But "abortionists have little interest in giving information," Cleaver added. "They're for-profit enterprises" in a "mercenary business."

"Planned Parenthood," she said, "does not give out free abortions."

As for the Donna Santa Marie case, it is "difficult to know what the court will grant," she said. "It's utterly up to their (the justices') discretion" whether to hear the case, she added.

At the press conference, Parker said that "this is the first time women injured by abortion are suing abortion doctors" and the first time women "have gone to

the Supreme Court and said, 'We've been hurt, will you protect us?'"

The court, he said, could "keep Roe" in place but recognize that if a woman has an abortion without her informed consent "it's obviously wrongful, and she should be able to sue the abortionists. That alone would protect many, many, many women across the country."

"On a deeper level, the court could say it is always involuntary, as we do with adoption," he continued. "We do not let a woman in this country sign a contract saying, 'I will give you my baby,' even if she's in a crisis pregnancy, because we know later on she may change her mind."

That precedent was established in part by the 1988 New Jersey Supreme Court's Baby M decision. The lawyer who successfully argued the case, Harold Cassidy, is the lead lawyer for the plaintiffs in the Donna Santa Marie case.

"All these women feel abortion is so horrible they feel no woman should have to go through with it," Parker said of those who signed the affidavits about their abortions. The court should "at least allow women forced and coerced and misled into abortions to sue the doctors" since during pregnancy "a very complex decision is going on in a woman's mind."

"There needs to be more information," he said.

"The abortion mentality that has plagued our country for over 30 years, far from freeing women, imprisoned them physically, mentally and spiritually," said Maggi Nadol, director of Catholic Social Services Respect Life Office in the Diocese of Charlotte. "If the high court hears this case, it will shine the light of truth on the lies told to women. Perhaps, for many, the healing can then begin."

Acting Editor Kevin E. Murray contributed to this story.

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For more information about the symptoms of post abortion trauma or for confidential e-mail, visit the Rachel's Vineyard website at www.rachelsvineyard.org. In the Diocese of Charlotte, local retreats are co-sponsored by the Respect Life Office and by Rachel Network.



## Book Review

# Two books on divorce's effects on the next generation

REVIEWED BY MIKE HAYES  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

Lynn Cassella's "Making Your Way After Your Parents' Divorce" addresses the needs of children of divorced parents as they enter their young-adult years. It is subtitled "a supportive guide for personal growth" and says that it offers "a path to peace to all who have suffered the effects of a parental divorce."

Divorce breaks apart a family. The parents may heal and enter a new life where they feel more empowered, but they may never fully reconnect with their children. This causes long-term painful effects for the children.

Cassella weaves the story of her own feelings about her parents' divorce into the stories of many other children of divorce. She describes the effects her parents' divorce had on her

feel good about overcoming those obstacles, and can show us the extraordinary "generosity of God" who suffers along with us and brings us to fulfillment through his cross.

Cassella is the founder of Faith Journeys, a ministry based in Ellicott City, Md., which offers workshops for young people who are facing their parents' divorce. This book can be used as a workbook for a parish-based support group. The book could also be useful for people whose parents have died, as many of the feelings she speaks of apply to this group as well.

Meanwhile, veteran marriage counselors Beverly and Tom Rogers have written "Adult Children of Divorced Parents — Making Your Marriage Work." The authors use their own stories to show that they themselves have become "wounded healers," as Father Henri Nouwen would say. Their style of recognizing wounds and suggestions for healing is a must-read for all those who are presently in marriage and are facing issues that stem from their parents' divorces.

Their main thesis is that children never escape from divorce unscathed, as popular culture seems to believe. While they admit that other factors could contribute to the wounds they speak of, they point out that adult children of divorce do not have a peachy-keen viewpoint of what life holds for them in marriage.

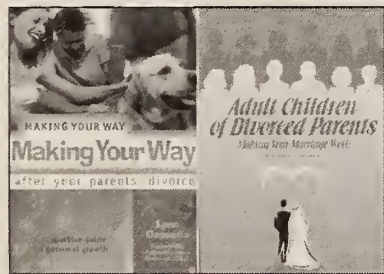
They also tell their story with some great tales of good humor amid the trouble they face at times in their own marriage.

They have an excellent chapter toward the end on forgiveness, including several questions and answers of what forgiveness is and is not. At this time of war, it doesn't only apply to marriages.

Hayes is the associate director of Paulist Young Adult Ministries and operations director of its Internet site, *BustedHalo.com*.

"Making Your Way After Your Parents' Divorce," by Lynn Cassella. Liguori-Lifespan (Liguori, Mo., 2002). 114 pp., \$10.95.

"Adult Children of Divorced Parents — Making Your Marriage Work," by Beverly and Tom Rodgers. Resource Publications (New York, 2002). 162 pp., \$19.95.



life and on theirs, and how it still affects her today in her relationships and personal growth. She includes excellent questions to give the book a workbook quality.

Her best chapter speaks of "your image of God." It is here that Cassella suggests that our models of God can change because of drastic changes in the way we view our parents. We need to have a "positive context for growing in our understanding of God. ... No longer will we be consumed and controlled by the uncontrollable (as a child might view God); instead we'll find a much needed balance."

There's also a short but effective chapter on the Catholic Church's teaching on marriage and divorce, which is certainly of interest to young adults.

Most importantly, Cassella speaks of the journey, the importance of embracing pain rather than hiding behind the walls of denial or running toward comfort. She speaks of how making it through tough times can make us better people, can make us

## Word to Life

Sunday Scripture Readings:  
April 6, 2003

April 6, Fifth Sunday of Lent  
Cycle B Readings:

- 1) Jeremiah 31:31-34  
Psalm 51:3-4, 12-15
- 2) Hebrews 5:7-9
- 3) Gospel: John 12:20-33

By BEVERLY CORZINE  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

If I were to color-code the months in the year, February would be gray. If we have unusually warm weather or if we have severely cold weather during the second month of the year, to me its color is gray. With the dawning of March, I begin to search the trees on the way to work for that first glorious sign of green that begins to cover otherwise naked trees.

Driving down the crowded freeway a few mornings ago, I saw it. The green had arrived. The same trees that were barren and seemingly lifeless only the day before had begun to wrap themselves in a frothy mist of green. Although full leafing will take some weeks to accomplish, the tiny tips of the new leaves have made their debut. The promise of new life has once again returned to our part of the world.

Witnessing the new leaves that morning triggered memories of my childhood in Colorado, memories of helping my grandfather plant bulbs in the late fall. I remember when we finished our work he would say: "I hope the Lord lets me live to see these flowers next spring. I'd sure like to be around to plant another good vegetable garden. The snow will be gone, and these flowers will be bloomin'."

Sometimes on long winter nights my mother and grandfather would scrutinize seed catalogues and discuss what they might order for their spring flower and garden projects. When they began these familiar conversations, I would wonder about the fate of the bulbs that now lay buried under the snow. Would they really come back? I also wondered if God would let my grandfather see the new garden. However, I was quite certain that God and my grandfather had worked out some sort of agreement about his living until spring and planting gardens.

As I grew older, my grandfather would share greater insights with me about all growing things and about how life on this planet points to the great promises that God has made with us over thousands of years. My grandfather knew the great metaphor about the dying and rising of a grain of wheat that Jesus uses in today's Gospel to help his disciples understand that Jesus' death will not be the end but the glorious beginning.

### Questions:

What have you planted in the lives of those around you? What blossoms do you, with Easter-anticipating hope, look forward to?

## Weekly Scripture

### Scripture for the week of April 6 - April 12

Sunday (Fifth Sunday of Lent), Jeremiah 31:31-34, Hebrews 5:7-9, John 12:20-33; Monday (Lenten Weekday), Daniel 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62, John 8:1-11; Tuesday (Lenten Weekday), Numbers 21:4-9, John 8:21-30; Wednesday (Lenten Weekday), Daniel 3:14-20, 91-92, 95, John 8:31-42; Thursday (Lenten Weekday), Genesis 17:3-9, John 8:51-59; Friday (Lenten Weekday), Jeremiah 20:10-13, John 10:31-42; Saturday (Lenten Weekday), Ezekiel 37:21-28, John 11:45-56

### Scripture for the week of April 13 - April 19

Sunday (Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion), Mark 11:1-10, Isaiah 50:4-7, Philippians 2:6-11, Mark 14:1-15:47; Monday (Holy Week), Isaiah 42:1-7, John 12:1-11; Tuesday (Holy Week), Isaiah 49:1-6, John 13:21-33, 36-38; Wednesday (Holy Week), Isaiah 50:4-9, Matthew 26:14-25; Thursday (Holy Thursday), Exodus 12:1-8, 11-14, 1 Corinthians 11:23-26, John 13:1-5; Friday (Good Friday), Isaiah 52:13-53:12, Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9, John 18:1-19:42; Saturday (Easter Vigil), Exodus 14:15-15:1, Psalm 118:1-2, 16-23, Mark 16:1-7



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# 'Head of State' low on humor

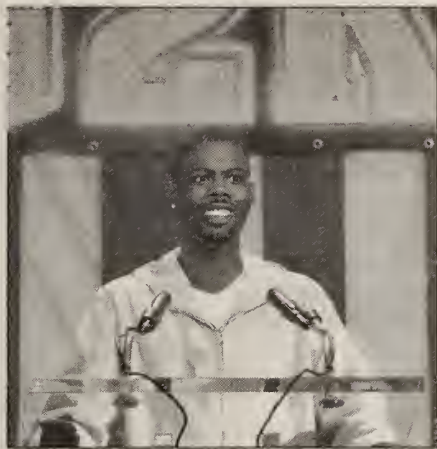
By GERRI PARE  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

NEW YORK — Chris Rock plays the most unlikely of presidential candidates in the occasionally amusing comedy "Head of State" (DreamWorks).

Washington Alderman Mays Gilliam (Rock) is down on his luck, big time. His girlfriend (a shrill Robin Givens) tosses him out of her apartment, his car is repossessed and he's losing his job. But an unusual if unbelievable opportunity presents itself: An airplane crash eliminates a presidential candidate and the party's honcho (James Rebhorn) decides, since they are bound to lose anyway, they should please the minority vote with an African-American candidate. Gilliam's their man.

But he's not the malleable choice that at first he seems. Gilliam's more interested in sweet waitress Lisa (Tamala Jones) and getting party contributors to loosen up and get down, serving as a deejay at a function instead of giving canned speeches to the VIPs. His campaign manager (Dylan Baker) and political adviser (Lynn Whitfield) are hard-pressed to keep him in line.

And once his bail bondsman-brother, Mitch (Bernie Mac), urges him to forget politics and speak from the heart, Gilliam catches the public's favor. His protest slogan about the need for reform, "That Ain't Right!" strikes more of a chord than that of his smug rival



CNS PHOTO FROM DREAMWORKS PICTURES

Chris Rock portrays an unlikely presidential candidate in the DreamWorks Pictures' comedy "Head of State." The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-III — adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13 — parents are strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.

(Nick Searcy), who proclaims "God Bless America and No One Else!"

After he names his brother as his vice presidential candidate, the campaign has its ups and downs. Aside from the running joke of his ex-girlfriend wanting him back in hopes of becoming

the first lady, a low point is Stephanie March's role as his assistant, paid to keep him sexually satisfied, which thankfully he declines in deference to his budding romance with Lisa. Nonetheless, it's off-putting and not funny, and frequently the jokes fall flat.

As also co-written (with Ali LeRoi) and directed by Rock, it's a schizophrenic movie, sometimes wistfully sweet-natured, other times veering towards vulgarity. Rock milks the populist theme for laughs and has comedic presence before the camera, but the dialogue and situations are mediocre and the movie sags by its midpoint. Its reliance on political stereotypes and tired jabs at race relations consign it to also-ran status.

Due to a live-in relationship, crass sexual references, racial epithets and an instance of rough language, the USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-III — adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13 — parents are strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.



## Movie Capsules

NEW YORK (CNS) — The following are capsule reviews of movies recently reviewed by the Office for Film & Broadcasting of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

### "Basic" (Columbia)

Unsatisfying military thriller in which an ex-Army Ranger (John Travolta) and a prickly Army captain (Connie Nielsen) must try to unravel the truth behind the Panama jungle deaths of a hated Special Forces sergeant (Samuel L. Jackson) and four trainees under him while two survivors spin an elaborate series of stories about what happened. Director John McTiernan's macho action flick takes a "Rashomon"-like approach to the narrative, but the dozen characters, murky visuals and constant plot twists eventually become tedious. Recurring violence, much rough language and intermittent profanity. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-IV — adults, with reservations. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is R — restricted.

### "View From the Top" (Miramax)

Leaden romantic comedy in which a small-town working-class woman (Gwyneth Paltrow) goes after her dream to become an international flight attendant. With a scatterbrained plot and flat jokes, director Bruno Barreto's failed satire chugs along awkwardly unable to maintain interest in its characters. An implied affair, a few sexual references and minimal crass language. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-III — adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13 — parents are strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.

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## The Pope Speaks

POPE JOHN PAUL II

## Pope says believers must trust that God's justice will prevail

By CINDY WOODEN  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — Having faith in God means trusting that despite periods of suffering and chaos God's promised justice will prevail, Pope John Paul II said.

"Believers must be certain that history is not in the hands of fate, chaos and oppressive powers; the last word belongs to the just and strong God," the pope said April 2 at his weekly general audience in St. Peter's Square.

During the audience, the pope did not specifically mention the war in Iraq, although addressing a small group of pilgrims from Hungary he said, "I ask your prayers for peace in the world."

The pope's main audience talk focused on Isaiah's exhortation to "sing a new song" to the Lord who saves his people and "shows his might" against "those who oppress others and commit injustices."

"The prophet makes us aware that God, even when he seems silent in the face of oppression, injustice or any other evil which touches man, never stops loving him and always comes to his aid if he turns to God with trust," the pope said.

Pope John Paul said the apparent silence of God often confuses or even scandalizes the faithful.

"But it is never a silence indicating an absence as if history were left in the hands of the perverse and the Lord remained indifferent and unmoved," he said.

"In reality, that silence flows into a reaction similar to a woman in labor who gasps, pants and screams," the pope said. "It is the divine judgment on evil, which is represented with the images of aridness, destruction and desert."

The Isaiah canticle, he said, professes faith that God will replace the desolation with a flowering of freedom and salvation.

Each day, the pope said, believers should look around them for signs of divine action.

"To discover with the eyes of faith this divine presence in space and time, and within ourselves, is a source of hope and trust, even when our hearts are troubled and shaken 'as the trees of the forest are shaken in the wind,'" Pope John Paul said.

## The mysterious allure of icons

I never really appreciated icons, those colorfully painted religious images that originated in the Eastern church, until 1992 when I did a summer program in religious studies at Oxford University. One lecture was on icons, given by Bishop Kallistos Timothy Ware. He came with a ton of icons to show us, along with a great explanation of why these paintings don't look at all like mirror representations of human beings.

That, in fact, underscored the point. The icons, with their brilliant colors and mysterious faces, were meant to represent eternal truths that transcend earthly limits. Icons, he explained, resulted because "tradition and dogma took the place of nature, imposing a formal art whose aim was an abstract expression of religious emotion."

I was hooked with fascination once I understood that these were images meant specifically to help us yearn for the God who transcends all creation, yet is linked to all creation eternally. I have since admired showings of icons created by modern iconographers who faithfully keep the tradition of mystery and eternity in their works.

Not surprisingly, as I looked for books that would be inspiring for Lenten meditations, I stopped short when I saw one with an icon of Christ on the cover. The title also attracted me, "Christ All Merciful," with a simple italicized promise, "The wondrous saving grace of Jesus comes alive in both image and word" (Orbis Books). Written by Megan McKenna, the book was illustrated with 21 icons painted by William Hart McNichols, a Jesuit priest and iconographer who lives in New Mexico.

The author invites us to look at "the faces of Christ" in reflective chapters that give unusual insights about our connection with divinity.

But this is not to be a one-sided activity — with us, on the outside, looking at the icon images. McKenna wants us to recognize that "the icon is a mirror, held before our eyes so that we can see our faces, our souls and our lives as God sees us."

## Letters to the Editor

### Front-page news

I was shocked to find the story addressing the partial-birth abortion ban ("Senate passes bill banning partial-birth abortion," March 21) buried on page six. I was further surprised to see that there was not even a front-page headline directing readers to the article.

While I am sure that issues such as the St. Patrick's Day parade and the school emergency plans are interesting and newsworthy, they cannot compare with the importance of protecting human life.

Banning partial birth abortion was a long and difficult road for everyone working to protect our children from such a horrific "procedure." This victory for the unborn should be showcased, particularly by a Catholic periodical.

Kelly Schifano  
Pineville

### Censorship denies opposing voices

I am responding to Thomas Strini's letter to the editor ("Twisted" pro-war views unwanted in Catholic newspaper," March 14) in which he stresses his opinion that "while diversity of opinion is appropriate on the editorial page of a commercial newspaper, it has no place in *The Catholic News & Herald*, or any other Catholic publication, when it goes against the most fundamental tenets of our faith."

Hitler would have appreciated Mr. Strini's views; so would Saddam Hussein. Both men suppressed and suppress individual thinking and democratic reign. If Catholic, Protestant or commercial publications censored the opinions published, we would live in a society of brainwashed cults.

Even the pope's footmen in the Vatican have expressed views siding with President Bush. Why would Mr. Strini blindly believe to only allow war when it

## The Bottom Line

ANTOINETTE BOSCO  
CNS COLUMNIST



The book is rich with stories of people who, by the courage of their lives, were living images of Jesus. I had an astounding surprise as I reached the last chapter, titled "Holy New Martyr, Sister Mary Antoinette, Daughter of Wisdom." In the icon, she is visited by Wisdom, traditionally depicted as a spirit with wings, bearing a blood red cross. How right this image is.

Sister Antoinette was my friend, who ran a school in the Congo. She was martyred there in 1964, singled out by the Congo rebels, becoming the victim of rape and beatings before her lifeless body was then thrown into the river.

Seeing that icon, I felt so connected to her, remembering an interview I did with her when she came back to the United States to "beg," as she said, for crucially needed supplies for her "children." There was chaos in the Congo, and so many of her friends pleaded with her not to go back. But nothing could keep her from going back to her children there. The last thing she said to me was, "I don't know the ending — but what we do is a beginning."

Of course, we're never meant to know "the ending." That's the message in the icon. We live with mystery, true, but we have promises given by Christ that life will prevail. The people in this book believed in Easter — the promise. I looked at the icons and could see that all the faces are Christ.

benefited the Catholic faith? Would he have questioned God when he advised the battle of Jerico? Would he have let Hitler rule to torture and eliminate a country of people because of their faith? Why then will he sit and allow Hussein to torture his people, his neighbors and give aide to terrorists so that they can kill those who live in free society?

Mr. Strini seems to want a paper published that only expresses his views. Catholics who support the president do have a voice. To censor or not publish their opinions would be ignorant and promote tyranny. I am thankful *The Catholic News & Herald* doesn't hide and banish the views of those who do not only believe as Mr. Strini.

Traci Chilton  
China Grove

### All sides should be represented

While I wholeheartedly agree with Thomas Strini's opposition to the impending war in Iraq, I passionately disagree with his assertion that *The Catholic News & Herald* should not print letters opposing his view ("Twisted" pro-war views unwanted in Catholic newspaper," March 14).

Yes, this is a Catholic publication. Yes, the pope and many other Catholics oppose the war, but has Mr. Strini forgotten that this newspaper is published in the United States of America, a nation that survives, indeed, thrives on a "diversity of opinion?"

We do not live in Iraq where such differences of opinion would be met with deadly intolerance. Differing points of view have a place even within the Catholic Church and most certainly in an American Catholic newspaper that is protected by freedom of the press.

These were editorial letters that were published, not articles under a news heading. The editor should not step down from his post as Mr. Strini suggests, but should be commended for his courageous decision to give voice to all of *The Catholic News & Herald's* readers.

Beth Downing  
Charlotte





## Light One Candle

MSGR. JIM LISANTE  
GUEST COLUMNIST

### Meeting our heroes

I've been interviewing people on television for about 15 years, including guests from government and the arts, religious leaders and captains of business and industry. When I started on a small cable station, the show was called "Let's Talk." It was a live call-in program. You had to be quick on your feet to deal with tough caller questions, as well as to screen sometimes over-the-top individuals.

Friends asked me if I was ever nervous about interviewing a famous person. And I was, a little. They can be a little daunting. But, gradually, I came to see that they were people just like everyone else. I recall, for instance, a successful Broadway actor who intimidated me with his fame. But during a commercial break, he shared his frustration in raising kids who weren't impressed by his public face. They gave him the same hard time most teens give their parents. It was a wonderfully leveling moment and freed me from the inclination to be overly impressed by guests just because of their fame. Well, all except one.

As a high school student, I was affected by the controversy over Vietnam. Like many children of World War II era parents, I was inclined to be patriotic and to believe that my country was always on the side of what was good and right. But slowly and painfully, I came to see that something about the war in Vietnam was not at all correct. When, in 1998, I read the book by former Secretary of Defense Robert McNamara, admitting that the war was never winnable

and morally suspect, I remember thinking, "I guess we knew that even then." But McNamara and President Lyndon Johnson didn't know a way out and were afraid of looking ineffective. The result: 58,000 American casualties, and at least a million Vietnamese dead.

One man who had the gumption to speak out against that war was Eugene McCarthy. A true intellectual, he had considered a life in the priesthood, before marrying and raising a large and loving family. McCarthy was elected to the U.S. Senate from Minnesota. With many in America throughout the 1960s, he watched the growing war effort with alarm, and hoped that somebody would step forward to challenge the president. He thought that person should be someone of magnitude and public standing, but when no one else would do it, Eugene McCarthy stepped into the breach.

No one took him seriously at first. This bookish fellow would be no match for the master of politics from Texas. But the people had a different idea. Young folks like me. People like my parents. People of different parties and people who'd never belonged to a party liked this straight talking non-politician politician. And his arguments against a seemingly senseless war took hold. By early 1968 and the New Hampshire primary, McCarthy was drawing huge crowds, demonstrating that this wasn't "politics as usual." And on the day of that primary, McCarthy shocked America by very nearly beating the president. But McCarthy had not wanted to run for president, and he did not, in the end, continue to win on the campaign trail. Still, he had stepped forward because he believed that one person can make a difference — and must stand up and be heard. He reminded us that our country was shaped by citizen-politicians who weren't afraid to get involved. In the end, he made people take notice.

None of the guests I have interviewed have moved me more than 86-year-old Eugene McCarthy, not for what he achieved in politics, but for his belief that it's never enough to shake our heads at what's wrong.

It is everyone's duty to make the world a better place — in whatever way we can. If we don't, who will?

### How long Christ is present in the Eucharist

*Q. What happens to the body and blood of Christ after we receive holy Communion? How long does it remain in our bodies? (Ohio)*

A. It is Catholic doctrine that Jesus Christ is present in the Eucharist as long as the reasonable appearance of bread and wine is there. The traditional theological phrase is that Christ is present in the Eucharist "under the species," or appearance, of bread and wine.

The Latin word "species" means that which can be seen or that which makes manifest. In other words, as long as the eucharistic species looks or tastes like bread and wine under ordinary human observation, the sacramental Christ is present. When that appearance or "species" of bread and wine is no longer there, as in almost microscopic crumbs, for example, the body of Christ is no longer present.

The church wants us to deal with the sacraments, including the Eucharist, with eyes of reverent faith, but also in a common-sense, human manner. It is not necessary, in the example I gave, for instance, to worry scrupulously about tiny, almost invisible particles that "may" have fallen and adhered to clothing or fingers.

• This should answer your question. Our digestive processes quickly change the eucharistic species so they are no longer identifiable as bread and wine. Thus, there is no longer a eucharistic presence of Christ in that sense.

Of course, this does not end the sacramental and spiritual effects of our Communion, which remain as elements of the believer's relationship with the Father and with our Lord.

As St. Augustine reminds us (in his commentary on the Gospel of John, treatise VI), whatever other ministers may be involved, Christ is always the first and central minister of all the sacraments, particularly the Eucharist. He gives his promise of

## Question Corner

FATHER JOHN DIETZEN  
CNS COLUMNIST



"hope and strength for life's journey in that sacrament of faith where natural elements (bread and wine) refined by men are changed into his glorified body and blood, providing a meal of brotherly solidarity and a foretaste of the heavenly banquet" (Vatican II, Constitution on the Church in the Modern World, No. 38).

That pledge of hope and strength endures as God's gift, renewed each time we receive the Eucharist with reverence and faith.

*A free brochure on ecumenism, including questions on intercommunion and other ways of sharing worship, is available by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope to Father John Dietzen, Box 325, Peoria, IL 61651.*

*Questions may be sent to Father Dietzen at the same address, or e-mail: jjdietzen@aol.com.*

## Coming of Age

AMY WELBORN  
CNS COLUMNIST



### Starting over on an important project

A few months ago, my daughter committed herself to a science fair project. She had to fill out forms, explain what she was going to do and why, as well as present a hypothesis.

She did all that, and she even started the project a couple of months before it was due. It involved plants, so she needed time.

But as the weeks passed, it became clear that the project wasn't going the way she'd thought or hoped it would. I won't bore you with the details, but it all came down to this: What seemed like a good idea at the time wasn't.

A couple of weeks before the project was due, Catherine said, "You know, I have a good idea for next year's project." She described the idea, and it was, indeed, an excellent, creative, interesting idea. We decided on the spot that she didn't need to wait until next year to do it. She still had enough time to make it this year's project.

Fast-forward two weeks: Her new project, dreamed up idly on the spur of the moment, won first prize.

You just never know, do you?

It's way too easy to get stuck in a rut. We let this happen to ourselves way too often.

We've made OK or even really good grades through most of our school years studying a certain way. Then we get to high school, and all of a sudden, what worked before doesn't even come close to working. Just memorizing answers to questions or definitions doesn't seem to cut it anymore; we actually have to understand stuff! How can we adapt?

We've gotten along with our friends just fine, cracking jokes, making fun of lame teachers and wandering around at the mall. But now your friend's parents are getting divorced or his sister is really sick, and the jokes just sound stupid and hollow. Should you keep telling them or can you adapt to what's called for by these changes?

We can all get stuck in a million different ruts if we let ourselves. Some of us get used to thinking about ourselves a certain way. We're the less-talented younger brother, the perfect daughter who never makes mistakes or the class trouble-maker.

These definitions can trap us. They can limit the way others see us, and, most important, limit the way we see ourselves. They can make us very unhappy. A definition of a part of ourselves that worked for a while doesn't anymore.

The world is filled with people who are miserable because they watched the project called "My Life" go in a direction that really didn't work but that they were also either too lazy or to scared to change. Maybe you know some of them.

It doesn't have to be that way, you know. If you're feeling like that, this might be a good moment to take those feelings to God. Because, of course, God didn't create you to be unhappy but he did give you imagination.

And, if you ask, he also gives you the wisdom to see a new direction and, more important, the courage to ditch the old project and just start over again!



## Director of Campus Ministry

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Belmont Abbey College, a Benedictine undergraduate liberal arts college located fifteen miles west of Charlotte, is seeking a Director of Campus Ministry.

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Please send letter of interest, resume, and reference information to Search Committee for Director of Campus Ministry, c/o Dean of Students, Belmont Abbey College, 100 Belmont-Mt. Holly Road, Belmont, NC 28012.

No phone calls please. Review of resumes will begin immediately and continue until position is filled. Belmont Abbey College is an equal opportunity employer.

## DISABLED, from page 5

"For Beth to feel a part of this church makes the disABILITY Ministry so important," said Kennedy. "Also, had I not been given strength through this ministry, I may not have advocated to the diocese for housing for our Catholic members with mental retardation. Even though it is probably at least five years away, every step is very important."

The Catholic Diocese of Charlotte Housing Corporation (CDCHC) works towards meeting the needs of senior citizens, families with low-to-moderate incomes and other special-needs populations throughout the diocese. This year, the Diocesan Support Appeal will contribute funds to the CDCHC that will be used to launch the project.

According to Kennedy, celebrating the Mass as a part of Awareness Sunday also has the ecumenical result of having people of other faiths learn about the Catholic Mass. A prayer service, on the other hand, would likely being attended only by those who have a personal interest in those with developmental disabilities.

It is important to focus on abilities, rather than disabilities, Msgr. Bellow said.

"It is necessary for the entire community that we celebrate the liturgy in a setting where others feel comfortable," said Rev. Mr. Ben Wenning, diocesan coordinator of the permanent diaconate and a permanent deacon at St. Gabriel. "We need to look at the various disabilities people have, and grow in our understanding of them."

Contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans by calling (704) 370-3354 or e-mail [kaevans@charlottediocese.org](mailto:kaevans@charlottediocese.org).

## Principal - The Franciscan School

The Catholic Community of St. Francis of Assisi, Raleigh, NC, has an exciting opportunity for an energetic visionary to principal its K-8 parochial school. The Franciscan School, founded in August of 2000, is a state of the art educational facility possessing a strong and diverse faculty and a current enrollment of 550. Applicants must be practicing Catholics possessing a master's degree, preferably in educational administration or curriculum, and instruction. The successful candidate will have demonstrated a minimum of five years' experience in instructional leadership, school management and human resources and have or be capable of obtaining a NC Principal's Certificate. Additionally, a commitment to community involvement and service is essential. The principal of The Franciscan School must be a caring and compassionate educator, enthusiastic and capable of collaboration with parents, faculty and a large parish staff. The start date is July 1, 2003.

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## DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRY

**St. Leo the Great Catholic Church located in beautiful Winston-Salem** is searching for a youth minister to continue an established Life Teen program centered on the Eucharist. We are seeking an enthusiastic, passionate, faith-filled individual to direct young people toward a meaningful, life-affirming journey with Christ.

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Phone: 336-724-0561. Fax: 336-724-7036.



## CHAPLAINS, from page 1

opponents yearn," the archbishop said.

"Religious personnel who carry out their pastoral ministry in the armed forces should be on the frontlines of the vast process" in which the Catholic Church promotes humanitarian law because it is committed to protecting human dignity "in every circumstance," the archbishop told 41 high-ranking bishops and chaplains ministering to the military of 34 countries.

The chaplains were in Rome for a March 25-26 course on humanitarian law and its specific application to situations of war and conflict.

"The role of the chaplain is to bring troops the spiritual and ethical guidance needed to retain their humanity," Father Iasiello, who holds the rank of rear admiral, told Catholic News Service.

"If you fight with the right intention — to prepare for a just and lasting peace — you will retain your humanity and protect the humanity of others," he said.

In a message to the participants, Pope John Paul II said, "precisely when weapons are unleashed, the need for rules aimed at making warfare less inhuman is imperative."

Protecting the dignity of all involved in armed conflicts also helps promote "the reconciliation necessary once peace returns," he said.

The theme of the course, sponsored by Archbishop Martino's office and the Congregation for Bishops, was chosen more than three years ago and the program was finalized six months ago, before it was certain the United States and Britain would attack Iraq.

Nevertheless, the conflict in Iraq obviously was on the minds of the participants.

"What consoles us," Father Iasiello said, "is the knowledge that there are chaplains active there with the soldiers and with the relief efforts in the areas where the fighting has stopped."

In March, Father Peter Fitzgibbons, pastor of St. Phillip the Apostle Church in Statesville and a chaplain major in the U.S. Army Reserves, shipped out to Kuwait to coordinate ministry teams in the Middle East.

While abroad and at war, an Army chaplain must be a source of strength for soldiers who need to help deal with what Father Fitzgibbons called the "horrors of war."

"They (soldiers) can tell me things they can't tell their wives, about the horror of what happened — things they can't tell anyone outside this field," he said. "It's not as clean as the movies make it out to be."

Father Fitzgibbons has seen his share of atrocities while serving soldiers in the field. He said he had to prepare for the stress, emotionally and spiritually.

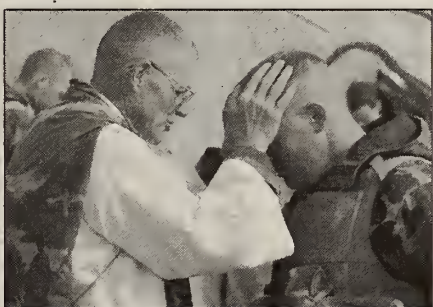
"That's why I pray," he said, adding that chaplains and soldiers also rely on each other for camaraderie and understanding. "The support of your soldiers helps you out a great deal. But it's necessary to become very holy."

The March course in Rome was planned to be more practical than theoretical, examining international law and its specific application to situations of war, including the treatment of prisoners



CNS PHOTOS FROM REUTERS

**Above: U.S. Marine chaplain Father Bill Devine celebrates Mass at a military camp in the Iraqi desert March 31. Below: Father Devine blesses a soldier from the 7th Battalion during Mass.**



and civilians, the role of medical and religious personnel and the individual responsibility of combatants.

The fact that a war was under way "reminded us of the importance of our ministry to bring reason and justice in the midst of this inhuman activity," Father Iasiello said.

The Franciscan said chaplains are not starting from scratch when they promote respect for the enemy even when a battle is raging.

Even the youngest U.S. soldiers are taught that "if they fight with restraint and justice," there is a greater chance that enemies will later become allies, he said.

Father Iasiello, whose doctoral dissertation was on the just-war theory, said he believes the centuries of tension within the Christian community over the morality of participating in war have been inspired by the Holy Spirit.

Being a Christian called to shun violence and being a citizen called to arms forces a believer to think, to pray and sometimes to compromise, he said.

"Within the church there is an inspired tension between pacifism and realism, and that is good. It keeps us focused," he said. "It keeps us honest."

The continuing tension was clear in Archbishop Martino's conclusion that the course underlined "the service of the chaplain as a minister of Christ and, for that reason, as a man of peace."

In the light of Pope John Paul's teaching, he said, "we are more convinced than ever of the unacceptability of war as a means for overcoming disputes between states."

*Alisa Blackwood contributed to this story.*

## Pope says Iraqi war must not turn into 'religious catastrophe'

By JOHN THAVIS  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — As the toll of death and destruction mounted during the second week of war in Iraq, Pope John Paul II repeatedly prayed for peace and said the conflict must not be allowed to become a "religious catastrophe."

The pope, who strongly opposed an attack on Iraq, made the comments as photos of civilian victims in Iraq provoked sadness and indignation in much of the world, especially Muslim countries.

Meanwhile, some church leaders stepped up criticism of the war effort led by U.S. and British troops, as Catholics tried to wrestle with the moral issues involved. Many in the United States were distressed at the loss of life on both sides, including four U.S. soldiers killed by an Iraqi suicide bomber at a military checkpoint.

Speaking at a noon blessing from his apartment window above St. Peter's Square March 30, the pope said the world was experiencing a moment in which "painful armed conflicts are threatening humanity's hope in a better future."

He offered a special prayer to Mary for war victims and especially for her intercession for peace in Iraq.

The day before, addressing bishops from predominantly Muslim Indonesia, the pope expressed deep concern about the interreligious impact of

the war in Iraq.

"War must never be allowed to divide world religions. I encourage you to take this unsettling moment as an occasion to work together, as brothers committed to peace, with your own people, with those of other religious beliefs and with all men and women of good will in order to ensure understanding, cooperation and solidarity," he said.

"Let us not permit a human tragedy also to become a religious catastrophe," he said.

At his weekly general audience March 26, the pope said his heart was weighed down by reports coming out of Iraq, and he urged Catholics to continue praying the rosary for peace.

On March 25, the pontiff sent a message to a group of international military chaplains meeting in Rome. He encouraged chaplains to educate soldiers in the ethical values that underlie humanitarian law and promote respect for the dignity of military adversaries and civilians.

"Precisely when weapons are unleashed, the need for rules aimed at making warfare less inhuman is imperative," he said.

The pope also told the chaplains that recent worldwide peace protests against the Iraqi war showed that a large part of humanity rejects war — except in legitimate self-defense — as a means to resolve conflicts between countries.

## Catholics in the war zone

FROM CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

IRAQ—the Chaldean Catholic Church was forced to close its headquarters in the capital, Baghdad, and transfer its personnel elsewhere after a bomb or missile blew the building's windows out. A Carmelite church in the capital also was damaged. About 175,000 Catholics, most of them Chaldean-rite, live in Baghdad.

In Basra, the southern Iraqi city where some of the heaviest fighting occurred, Archbishop Djibrail Kassab appealed for emergency medicine and water-treatment equipment because people risked contracting diseases from

drinking contaminated river water.

Medical supplies provided by Caritas Iraq were used to treat several hundred people in Basra, mostly women and children injured in the bombing. Caritas Iraq also treated injured civilians on the streets of Baghdad and transported the seriously wounded to local hospitals, according to a British Catholic aid agency.

The heavy toll prompted Catholic and other Christian leaders of Baghdad to appeal for a cease-fire. Chaldean Catholic Auxiliary Bishop Shlemon Warduni told Vatican Radio that the bishops released their appeal after a March 26 meeting in the Iraqi capital, where he said the situation was worsening every day because of the coalition bombardments.

U.S. officials have ruled out any talk of a cease-fire.

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## Sister of Mercy answers God's calling to lead, serve

By MARY MARSHALL

**BELMONT** — It was the solid Catholic nurturing of her parents and the influence of the Sisters of Mercy nuns who taught her faith formation that influenced Mercy Sister Mary Michel Boulus to choose a religious life.

"My parents were both Catholic and along with my two brothers and two sisters, we had a wonderful Catholic upbringing, learning life-enduring Christian values," said Sister Mary Michel.

"In addition, three Mercy Sisters — Sister Stephen Monahan, Sister Jean Baptist Meskill and Sister Mary Joan Faller — who were my CCD teachers, played an important part in my decision," she said. "It's the dedication of the Sisters of Mercy to serve the poor, sick and uneducated that drew me to the order."

Sister Mary Michel grew up in Concord, N.C., where she received a public school education. She graduated from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro in 1947, earning a bachelor's degree in mathematics. Following graduation, she taught at her alma mater, Concord High School, for two years.

In 1949, she entered the Sisters of Mercy. "I always knew I wanted to become a nun," said Sister Mary Michel. "I felt called, prayed hard and God directed me."

From 1950 to 1958, Sister Michel taught math and social studies at what is today Charlotte Catholic High School. In 1959, she was called to teach at Asheville Catholic High School, returning to Belmont a year later to teach at Sacred Heart Academy and Sacred Heart Junior College.

She spent her summers studying at John Carroll University in Cleveland, Ohio, where she earned a master's in mathematics in 1959.

Sister Mary Michel's spiritual

life grew through her participation in community life. Accepting leadership roles, she served as the general treasurer of the Sisters of Mercy from 1963 to 1984. During these years, she also served on the leadership team, which was then called the General Council.

In 1974, Sister Mary Michel was named president of Sacred Heart College, a position she held until the college closed in 1987. Under her guidance, the college introduced evening classes, which continue today at Belmont Abbey, as all classes transferred to Belmont Abbey when the college closed. These evening classes have opened a new window of opportunity for many people in the area to continue their education.

After completing the many tasks involved with closing the college, Sister Mary Michel was named director of food services for the Sister of Mercy motherhouse. Today, she continues in this position.

Over the years, she served as a member of the Sisters of Mercy long-range planning committee and on the renovation of the motherhouse committee.

Sister Mary Michel has served on the boards of directors of St. Joseph Hospital in Asheville and Mercy Hospital in Charlotte. She received honorary doctorate degrees from UNC-Greensboro and Belmont Abbey College.

"I am very happy that I made the choice to serve in the religious life," said Sister Mary Michel. "As Sisters of Mercy, we address the needs of our times, responding to the issues of the church and civic community in our works and concerns."

"I have been wonderfully blessed in the work we do. I hope to continue to do the best I can for as long as I can," she said. "Becoming a Sister of Mercy was the right choice for me. I thank God for the gift."



Mercy Sister Mary Michel Boulus

## Feisty 17th-century Mexican nun was cultural light in man's world

By AGOSTINO BONO  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

**WASHINGTON** — Penning poetry and debating theology with clergymen was not women's work in the macho world of colonial Mexico. But it came naturally to Sister Juana Inez de la Cruz.

Her insatiable intellectual curiosity, her poems, her music, her plays and her essays made the nun the cultural light of 17th-century Mexico City at a time when women were expected to be attractive, not articulate. Viceroy and bishops visited her convent to see her dramas, to hear her play musical instruments or to listen to poetry readings.

Today, Sor Juana, as she is known, is considered one of the premier Spanish-language poets of the colonial New World.

She is also historical proof that feisty, motivated and talented women are nothing new in male-controlled societies and clerical cultures.

Her biting condemnation of men beginning "Hombres necios," which can be loosely translated as "Pig-headed men," is a staple of many Latin American high school literature classes. Modern in feminist content but traditional in poetic form, her rhyming verses criticize men for being hypocritical toward women, wanting them to be virgins while luring them into seduction, and then arrogantly proclaiming that women's weakness — not male domination — is the cause of female downfall.

The poem asks:

"Why do you incite them to sin

"If you want them to be good?"

The poem is steeped with the poet's sharp irony, an irony described by Chilean poet and 1945 Nobel Prize laureate for literature Gabriela Mistral: "She holds it like a fine and beautiful tiny flame, playing with it over the heads of people."

Sor Juana is also known for her love poems to men and women.

Juana de Asbaje y Ramirez was born in San Miguel Nepantla, Mexico, to well-to-do parents on Nov. 12, 1651. She learned to read at age 3, using cunning to get an education denied girls.

"I so burned with a desire to know how to read that, deceiving the teacher, as I thought, I told her that my mother had ordered her to give me lessons," wrote Sor Juana.

British novelist and poet Robert Graves noted that the child had mastered Latin so she could devour the books she most desired from her grandfather's library and, "before she was eight, could read and enjoy Plato, Aristophanes and Erasmus."

Using her ability to read, she learned other languages and taught herself literature, science, mathematics, philosophy, and theology. At age 13, her uncle presented the child prodigy to the court of the viceroy. Graves wrote that her wisdom and beauty made her a favorite of the viceroy's wife and a steady fixture at court for three years.

But when faced with the prospect of marrying, which would have truncated her education, the young Juana chose to become a nun at 16. She saw it as the best way to continue her studies. She entered the Discalced Carmelites, but several years later took her final vows with the Sisters of St. Jerome.

Her personal fortunes underwent the ups and downs related to changes in colonial civil and religious leadership. But her production of poems, plays, music and essays flowed, some of the latter resulting from clerical requests that she use her knowledge to defend her faith.

One essay backfired. Written in 1691, it defended with biblical and theological arguments a woman's right to an education. The essay so angered an archbishop that her books, musical instruments and other personal possessions were taken from her.

Sor Juana died April 17, 1695, of the plague after tending to other nuns who had contracted it.

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I gave my back to those who beat me, my cheeks to those who plucked my beard; my face I did not shield from buffets and spitting. The Lord GOD is my help, therefore I am not disgraced; I have set my face like flint, knowing that I shall not be put to shame.

Isaiah 50:6-7

# The Catholic NEWS & HERALD

APRIL 11, 2003

SERVING CATHOLICS IN WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA IN THE DIOCESE OF CHARLOTTE

VOLUME 12 No 29

## Working together

### Pastors learn importance of pastoral councils

By KEVIN E. MURRAY  
ACTING EDITOR

CHARLOTTE — Priests serving in the diocese recently had the opportunity to re-acquaint themselves with the importance of pastoral councils and their value to their ministries as pastors.

Dr. Mark Fischer, noted expert in the pastoral council field, presented "Establishing and Renewing Pastoral Councils in the Diocese of Charlotte" to two gatherings of priests at St. Barnabas Church in Arden March 31 and at Our Lady of the Highways Church in Thomasville April 1.

"I clarified a lot of misconceptions of pastoral councils, and shared some of the thinking of experts in the field," said Fischer.

Recommended by the Second Vatican Council of 1962-1965, the pastoral council is a new concept, said Fischer in a March 31 interview. Yet "the most recent statistics are that 82 percent of 19,000 Catholic parishes (in the United States) have pastoral councils," he said.

Pastoral councils, which Fischer described as a "diocesan pastoral council at the parish level," are "mandated by the local bishops. Local bishops don't require their priests to do something unless they're pretty confident that it works well."

Fischer, who holds a doctorate from Berkeley's Graduate Theological Union and is associate professor of theology

See COUNCILS, page 15

## Walking in Jesus' footsteps



PHOTOS BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

### From soles to souls, many walk to help others

Above: Twenty-four members of the eighth-grade confirmation class at Holy Spirit Church in Denver participate in the Relay for Life at East Lincoln High School April 3-4. The rainy weather Saturday morning didn't discourage the youth, who camped out at East Lincoln High School. By keeping one person walking at all times, the group raised \$2,600 for the American Cancer Society.

Right: Over 100 people participated in House of Mercy's 10th Annual Walk for AIDS through Belmont. In addition to raising awareness to the disease — nearly 2,000 people in the region are infected with HIV — the event helped raise \$1,900 for operating funds for the facility that offers medical, physical, psychological and spiritual support and comfort to its residents.



## It's war, but is it just?

Continuing discussion

...PAGE 7

## U.S. official says Vatican offers 'concrete proposals' on Iraqi aid

By JOHN NORTON  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — As U.S. troops consolidated their control over the Iraqi capital, the Vatican offered "concrete proposals" to the United States on how church groups can help distribute humanitarian aid in the war-scarred country, a U.S. official said.

Speaking after meetings with Vatican officials April 9, John R. Bolton, the U.S. undersecretary for arms con-

See VATICAN, page 6

## A hunger to help others

Haywood Catholic Youth fast, pray to end world hunger

By JOANITA M. NELLENBACH  
CORRESPONDENT

LAKE LOGAN — Joining hands around a bonfire, their petitions rising toward the star-speckled sky, the youth prayed for the world's hungry, gave thanks for the companionship of the group and for all the blessings they've received.

Eight members of Haywood Catholic Youth's (HCY) high school group and

See HUNGER, page 8

Psychologist devotes life to helping youth

...PAGE 4

Dioceses come together to promote stewardship

...PAGE 5

Traveler carries God's message

...PAGE 16

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### Vatican releases 'Lexicon' of debated terms on marriage, sexuality

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Terms such as "gay marriage," "reproductive rights" and "emergency contraception" are euphemisms increasingly used to promote practices that deny the natural truths about sexuality, marriage and the dignity of human life, the Pontifical Council for the Family said. The council's "Lexicon" of "ambiguous and debated terms on family life and ethical questions" was distributed in Italian in early April. The 868-page book contains 78 entries, most of which are expressions heard in parliaments and international meetings in ways that often "hide their real content and significance," Cardinal Alfonso Lopez Trujillo, council president, wrote in the introduction. He said the book was reviewed by the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith prior to publication. As of early April, arrangements for publication in other languages had not been finalized.

### U.S. ecumenical commission studying church authority, communion

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The Faith and Order Commission of the National Council of Churches neared completion of a study on authority in the church and the first phase of a study on communion at a recent meeting in Washington, the NCC said March 31. It is also working on a study of the church's authority in the world and plans to start a study on the relationship of justification, holiness and morality and justice. At the mid-March meeting, held at The Catholic University of America, the commission also completed a response to Pope John Paul II's request to the churches to examine whether there are better ways the bishop of Rome can exercise his ministry of unity so as to serve the unity of all Christian churches, not just the Catholic Church. That response has been forwarded to the Vatican's Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity. The Faith and Order Commission is the most confessionally diverse dialogue group in the United States. It includes representatives of Protestant, Orthodox, Oriental



CNS PHOTO FROM REUTERS

### Young Iraqi hugs U.S. soldier

An Iraqi youth hugs a soldier with the Navy Seabees outside a playground set up by U.S. troops in Umm Qasr April 6. The Seabees started working with the civilian population of this southern port town on the border with Kuwait in an effort to bring a return to normal life. As the U.S.-led coalition began its offensive in Baghdad, Pope John Paul II prayed for a quick end to the war and said he was especially worried about the "defenseless civilian population."

Orthodox, Catholic and Anglican churches. Protestant denominations include the so-called mainline churches and African-American, Pentecostal, Evangelical, Holiness and Peace churches.

### Priest: Supporting church, charities integral to practice of faith

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (CNS) — Supporting the church and giving to charities should be an integral part of a Catholic's practice of worshipping God, according to a retired rector of the Immaculate Conception Cathedral in Syracuse, N.Y. Msgr. Joseph Champlin was in Kansas City to help priests of the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph refine their theology of giving and learn practical ways of

enhancing development efforts on the parish and diocesan levels. He was one of five presenters from the Pastors National Development Conference, an Omaha, Neb., consulting firm headed by Richard Garrigan. One of the goals of the 15-hour training session March 25-26, Msgr. Champlin told The Catholic Key diocesan newspaper, is to hone parish leaders' understanding of the theology or spirituality of giving. The foundation of what he called "grateful giving" is the understanding that everything we have is a gift from God, he said.

### Cardinal raps senator's vote against partial-birth abortion ban

BALTIMORE (CNS) — Cardinal William H. Keeler of Baltimore criticized

a vote against a federal ban on partial-birth abortion by Sen. Barbara A. Mikulski, a Catholic Democrat who lives in his archdiocese. "I am deeply troubled by your continuing insistence that such a heinous procedure should be available in the United States of America," Cardinal Keeler said in a March 21 letter to Mikulski. The Senate vote March 13 to enact a ban passed 64-33. Also voting against a ban was Maryland's senior senator, Democrat Paul S. Sarbanes, a member of the Greek Orthodox Church. The bill, which President Bush has said he will sign, prohibits doctors from committing an "overt act" designed to kill a partially delivered fetus. The bill includes an exception in cases where the procedure is necessary to save the life of the mother.

### U.S. Anglican-Catholic dialogue has mixed view on 1999 statement

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The U.S. Anglican-Roman Catholic Consultation has praised parts of the 1999 international dialogue statement, "The Gift of Authority," but said other parts need significant improvement. The U.S. dialogue group proposed a number of concrete interim steps Catholic and Anglican authorities can take to strengthen bonds on the way to full communion. Among these were: regular participation of some Anglican bishops in the world synods of Catholic bishops held in Rome every three to four years; changing the status of Catholic bishops at the decennial Lambeth Conference of the Anglican Communion from "ecumenical participants" to "Roman Catholic bishop-delegates" with rights to speak and participate in all conference activities, but not to vote; and having similar bishop-delegates from the other church, with voice but no vote, at the meetings of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and the House of Bishops of the U.S. Episcopal Church. The U.S. group also endorsed the international dialogue's proposal that Anglican bishops join the Catholic bishops of their region when the Catholic bishops make their five-year "ad limina" visits to the Holy See.

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## Diocesan planner

### UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

#### April

**15 CHARLOTTE** — Janice Olive will address the topic "Dealing with the Years That Follow" tonight 7-8:30 p.m. in the St. Gabriel Ministry Center, 3016 Providence Rd. While attention is usually focused on persons who are grieving in the first year after a death occurs, the needs of grieving person go on. Spiritual friendship, care and concern are still needed, regardless of how much time has passed since the loss. We will explore some of these feeling and way to cope, as well as signs that may point to the need for specific grief work.

**16 ALBEMARLE** — Our Lady of the Annunciation Church will present a Seder meal and drama, "Is it I,

Lord?" tonight at 6 p.m. In it, each disciple tells how Jesus changed them and questions if he could be the one that betrays Jesus. This is a family-oriented event and all are welcome. There will be a covered dish dinner afterwards. Please contact Cyndi Norton at cknorton@charlottediocese.org or (704) 982-8986 for more information.

**18 HIGH POINT** — The Divine Mercy Novena will begin on Good Friday at 3 p.m. in the Maryfield Chapel, 1315 Greensboro Rd., and will continue daily at 3 p.m. until April 26. This is in preparation for the Feast of Divine Mercy on April 27. If you have questions, please call (336) 886-2444.

**18 CHARLOTTE** — Thank God It's Friday (TGIF), a weekly support group for separated and divorced women, meets tonight at 7 p.m. in the St. Matthew Church parish center, 8015 Ballantyne Pkwy., with its monthly potluck dinner with a guest speaker from the community. TGIF

is a healing ministry sponsored by Catholic Social Services, Charlotte Regional Office and St. Matthew Church. For details, call Trish Wilson at (704) 543-8986.

**18 LEXINGTON** — Our Lady of the Rosary Church will host a soup and sandwich dinner at 5:30 p.m. tonight followed by Salesian Reflections and Lenten Devotion with Benediction. All are welcome to attend. For details, call (336) 248-2463.

**20 CHARLOTTE** — St. Thomas Aquinas Church, 1400 Suther Rd., will be hosting an Ultreya today at 1:30 p.m. There will be a family potluck and childcare will be available. For more information, call Dan Hines at (704) 544-6665 or visit [www.charlottecursillo.org](http://www.charlottecursillo.org). To receive Cursillo information via e-mail contact [bmayer@alltell.net](mailto:bmayer@alltell.net).

**21 CHARLOTTE** — Christians in Career Transition is a ministry of St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy., devoted to helping



# **Governor, religious leaders join in memorial Mass on Cesar Chavez Day**

LOS ANGELES (CNS) — In a memorial Mass to honor Cesar Chavez's life and legacy, workers and civic and religious officials praised the late labor leader's nonviolent struggle on behalf of migrant farmworkers. Attending the bilingual liturgy at the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels on Cesar Chavez Day March 31 were Calif. Gov. Gray Davis and scores of civic and labor leaders as well as several hundred workers. Chavez, who lived from 1927 to 1993, was a lifelong Catholic and founder of the United Farm Workers. March 31 is a state holiday. The liturgy was a celebration of Chavez's vision, said Cardinal Roger M. Mahony of Los Angeles. His life inspires hope, he added. "Our efforts have purpose. Our actions make a difference," he said. "God's plan for the world is to bring about hope and healing to those who suffer — to the weak and the marginalized."

## **Benedictine monastery in Arkansas marks 125th anniversary**

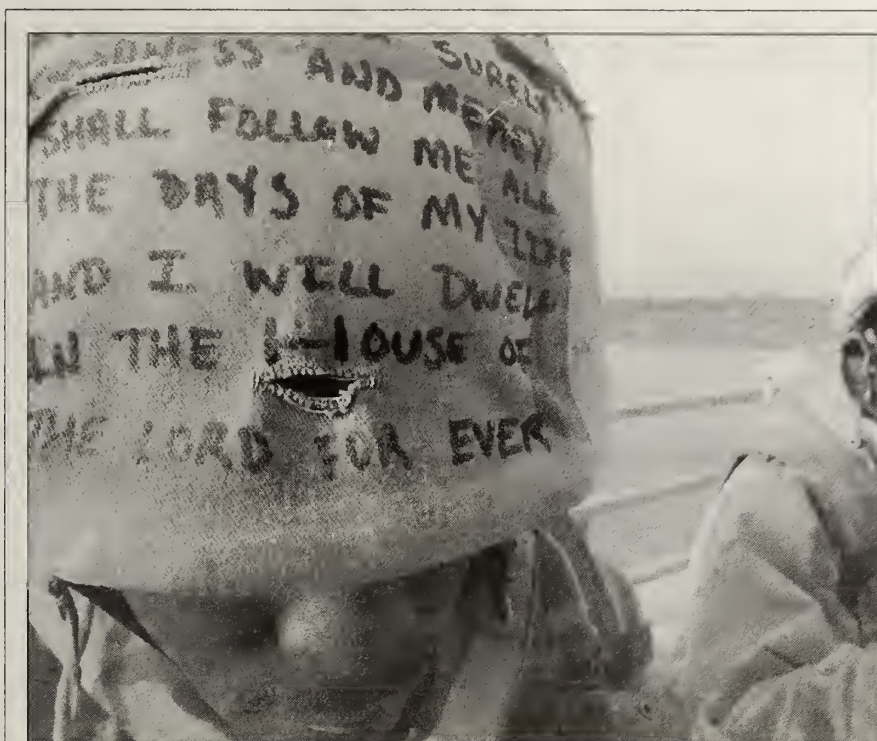
SUBIACO, Ark. (CNS) — "A paradise fallen from heaven" is how Father Isidor Hobi described the hills and valleys of Subiaco in correspondence sent back to Indiana in December 1877. He had been sent from St. Meinrad Abbey to Arkansas on an exploratory trip to find a site for a new Benedictine monastery. Eventually the priest who would become the founding prior of Subiaco Abbey, Father Wolfgang Schlumpf, and two other Swiss monks set out for the northwest Arkansas wilderness, arriving on March 15, 1878. Today, Subiaco has undertaken a \$10 million capital campaign to help the abbey move into the 21st century. The monks plan to put \$5.5 million into an endowment fund to provide student scholarships, increase faculty salaries, help support health care costs for aging monks and maintain the abbey's physical plant. The remaining \$4.5 million will upgrade the monks' living quarters, renovate student and faculty housing and build a larger chapel at the abbey's guest house.

people in career crises. The meetings will take place on the first and third Mondays of every month 7-9 p.m. in the conference room. For more information, call Rev. Mr. Jim Hamrlik at (704) 576-0456.

**21 ASHEVILLE** — The St. Martin De Porres Pro-Chapter of the Dominican Laity will be meeting tonight and every third Monday at 7 p.m. in St. Justin's Center at the Basilica of St. Lawrence, 97 Haywood St. Inquirers are welcome. For more information, contact Beverly Reid, OPL, at (828) 253-6676.

**21 CHARLOTTE** — The Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians Division 1 Mecklenburg County-St. Brigid, an Irish-Catholic social and charitable inter-parish group, will meet tonight at 7:30 p.m. at St. Gabriel Church, 3016 Providence Rd. Anyone interested in their Irish-Catholic roots, call Jeanmarie Schuler at (704) 554-0720 for further information.

**23 GUILFORD COUNTY** — The



CNS PHOTO FROM REUTERS

## **Scripture passage written on helmet of U.S. soldier**

A passage from Psalm 23 is scrawled on the helmet of a U.S. Army combat engineer as he takes a short rest after troops secured an important two-lane bridge over the Euphrates River outside of Baghdad, Iraq, April 4. Coalition forces, in their aim to topple the regime of Saddam Hussein, have cut a swath through ancient biblical sites in Iraq.

## **French, British church leaders express shock over cemetery vandalism**

WARSAW, Poland (CNS) — French and British church leaders expressed shock over the desecration of a memorial to Allied dead of World War I at a military cemetery in France. The vandalism at the Etaples Military Cemetery near Calais in late March follows vigorous opposition to the U.S.-British campaign in Iraq from the government in France. A monument in the cemetery was spray-painted, "Take away your rubbish, which is polluting our soil." "There may be differences between how we've analyzed recent political decisions," said Bishop Jean-Paul Jaeger of Arras. "But these have nothing to do with what our peoples have lived

through together, especially during the war when English and American soldiers gave their lives in defense of France, Europe and the highest values." He told Catholic News Service that tensions over the war in Iraq could not "cast a shadow" over the "permanent respect and esteem" owed by French society to soldiers of various nationalities buried in its soil. The vandalism was also deplored by Bishop Thomas Burns of the Military Diocese of Great Britain, who said the action insulted the memory of servicemen who died liberating France.

## **Caritas says southern Iraq faces security problems, water shortages**

ROME (CNS) — Representatives of the church's global charity confederation made a first assessment in early

April of the critical humanitarian situation in Umm Qasr, the only city in war-torn Iraq declared safe by coalition forces. Alistair Dutton, who headed the Caritas Internationalis team, said the southern port city of 40,000 people still faced security problems and shortages of clean water, despite a new pipeline that delivers 625,000 gallons of water daily. Dutton, an emergencies officer for the Catholic Agency for Overseas Development, known as CAFOD, the Caritas member agency from England and Wales, said his team also hoped to visit Iraq's second-largest city, Basra, in coming days when it is declared secure by coalition forces. Because of the fighting and cut phone lines, Caritas has been unable to communicate with staff members in its two clinics in Basra.

## **Marine remembered as 'soldier of freedom' at funeral Mass**

ENFIELD, Conn. (CNS) — The death of a 42-year-old soldier in Iraq makes people question "why did this have to happen? Why did it have to happen this way?" said the pastor of Holy Family Church in Enfield at the funeral of Marine Gunnery Sgt. Phillip Jordan. Jordan died March 23 in an ambush outside An Nasiriyah with eight other Marines when Iraqi soldiers feigned surrender before opening fire. More than 1,000 family members, friends and military, church and state officials, including Gov. John Rowland of Connecticut and Hartford Archbishop Daniel A. Cronin, attended Jordan's April 2 funeral and burial. In his homily, pastor Father Francis T. Kerwan, who had been a U.S. Army chaplain in World War II, said that man has always asked God why the inexplicable happens. Even God's own son cried out from the cross, he said, and suggested sometimes it is almost impossible to pray in such situations. The priest offered the oft-repeated adage that no man has a greater love than to lay down his life for his fellow man and told the congregation, "We are here today to witness one who did exactly that ... for the love of country, for the love of family, for the love of us."

tact bmayer@alltell.net.

## **July**

**13 KINGS MOUNTAIN** — The Oratory Religion Camp will hold two separate one-week sessions at Camp York in Kings Mountain State Park the weeks of July 13-19 and July 20-26. Boys and girls under 12 who will enter grades 2-6 in September can apply for consideration. For more information and application, write to: The Oratory Religion Camp, PO Box 11586, Rock Hill, SC 29731-1586. Those 16 and older wishing to volunteer as counselors can write for a staff application. See also online [www.rockhilloratory.com](http://www.rockhilloratory.com).

*Please submit notices of parish events for the Diocesan Planner at least 15 days prior to the event date in writing to Karen A. Evans at [kaevans@charlottediocese.org](mailto:kaevans@charlottediocese.org) or fax to (704) 370-3382.*

Ancient Order of Hibernians Guilford County Division, the oldest and largest order of Irish Catholic men, is looking for more Irish Catholic men to join them for meetings, educational seminars and social events. Contact Michael Slane at (336) 665-9264 for time and location.

**24 HUNTERSVILLE** — Catholic Social Services Elder Ministry will host its 17th Annual Spring Fling today at St. Mark Church, 14740 Stumptown Rd., 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Come join seniors from throughout the diocese for a day filled with music, games, bingo, crafts, door prizes, lunch, Mass and more. Registration deadline is Monday, April 14. For more information, call Sandra Breakfield at (704) 370-3220.

**24 GREENSBORO** — A Cursillistas Women's Weekend will be held April 24-26 at St. Paul the Apostle. Remember palanca for our teams and candidates. Please visit our new Cursillo website:

[www.charlottecursillo.org](http://www.charlottecursillo.org). To receive Cursillo information via e-mail, contact [bmayer@alltell.net](mailto:bmayer@alltell.net). Questions, call Dan Hines at (704) 544-6665.

**25 HICKORY** — A Rachel's Vineyard weekend retreat for spiritual and emotional healing after abortion will be held at the Catholic Conference Center on two weekends, April 25-27 or May 2-4. The retreats are co-sponsored by the Respect Life Office of the Diocese of Charlotte. For more information, contact Dr. Martha Shuping at (336) 659-1342 or [mshuping01@sprynet.com](mailto:mshuping01@sprynet.com). The Rachel's Vineyard web address is [www.rachelsvineyard.org](http://www.rachelsvineyard.org) and toll-free 24-hour line is 1-877-HOPE-4-ME.

**26 SALISBURY** — School of Leaders will meet at Sacred Heart Church today 9-11:30 a.m., following the 8 a.m. Mass. For more information, call Dan Hines at (704) 544-6665 or visit [www.charlottecursillo.org](http://www.charlottecursillo.org). To receive Cursillo information via e-mail con-



# Psychologist devotes life to helping youth

*St. John Church parishioner gives children a 'voice'*

By DIANNE M.A. RIGGS

CORRESPONDENT

WAYNESVILLE — "When life gives you lemons, make lemonade." It's a familiar saying in our culture, and it's exactly what Diane Kornse has done, having spent most of her adult years giving assistance to children and their families.

Kornse spent most of her childhood in foster homes in Philadelphia, Penn. However, she did not give up on life and graduated from West Philadelphia Catholic Girls' High School.

When her own children were in school, Kornse earned a doctorate in child development from Lehigh University in Pennsylvania.

Currently widowed after a 42-year marriage, the now-retired Kornse is active as a full-time volunteer on behalf of children. "I couldn't imagine not sharing my skills," she said.

Upon arriving in Waynesville in 1996, Kornse became a *guardian ad litem*, or a "child's voice in court." 30th Judicial District Court attempts to match volunteers with skills needed for each case, she said.

One assignment she received pertained to suspected child abuse involving a family's older children. However, when observing familial interactions, Kornse — because of her training — noticed the youngest child did not show the developmental skills normally seen for that age group.

After referral to specialists, the child was diagnosed as profoundly



PHOTO BY DIANNE M.A. RIGGS

Diane Kornse stands outside of the Haywood County Courthouse in Waynesville, where she is a *guardian ad litem* volunteer for the court.

deaf. Kornse said this necessitated great readjustment, activity and learning on the part of the other family members and Kornse aided them wherever possible.

"The case lasted three years and they still call me," she said.

Kornse is currently chair of the board of directors for Haywood Mountain Home. Open since November 1998, the home is an emergency shelter for children referred by the courts or social services due to abuse or neglect. Kornse has been on the board since 1999 and shares with the

other members the responsibility for raising funds, writing grants and generally directing the vision and direction of the home.

"I love going there because it's a warm home environment. Particular effort has gone into keeping it like a home and not an institution," she said. "We want kids to feel safe, comfortable and that there are really caring adults there."

The seven-bed home has provided 8,000 bed nights for Haywood County children since its opening, she said.

A member of St. John Church in Waynesville, Kornse was baptized and received the sacraments while staying with a Catholic foster family.

"I sometimes question my faith," she said, "but am always drawn back."

Kornse said she finds meaning in the history of the church and great security in it.

"I can always count on what church is about ... there is a predictability about it."

She said St. John Church is "very embracing, comforting."

Prior to arriving in Waynesville, Kornse had worked in New Jersey as a school psychologist and in south Florida as a developmental psychologist specializing in special needs children — infants, toddlers, pre-school.

Before 1991, she was part of a child study team that did develop-

mental evaluations. Kornse, as a psychologist, performed tasks including compiling complete histories of children, including the mothers' pregnancies.

One frustration in the early years was that many professionals — including physicians — assumed children would acquire skills "if you leave them alone."

"Today, there is much greater understanding of developmental timelines of children's growth and development and when there are departures from those timelines," she said. "When children are not developing or showing those skills, it means something like a developmental delay or a disability expressing itself."

There used to be a tendency for parents to hide children's developmental difficulties. Now, she said, they are more in the open.

Kornse said in addition to biological effects, such as genetic or birth problems causing developmental problems, she also saw these as the consequence of child abuse, poor parenting, poverty and the effects of domestic violence on children.

From 1991 to 1996, Kornse traveled across Florida helping counties set up programs ensuring children could get help with developmental problems at home or at a center.

"It was very professionally rewarding," she said.

Contact Correspondent Dianne M.A. Riggs by calling (828) 299-4411 or e-mail [mountainquixote@aol.com](mailto:mountainquixote@aol.com).

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# Dioceses come together to promote stewardship

*Many gather for Charlotte conference*

By KEVIN E. MURRAY

ACTING EDITOR

CHARLOTTE — The 2nd Annual Regional Stewardship Day Conference was held at the Adams Mark Hotel in Charlotte April 5.

The collaborative effort, hosted and sponsored by the Diocese of Charlotte as well as the dioceses of Charleston, Raleigh and Savannah and the Archdiocese of Atlanta, was an opportunity for people interested in stewardship to interact and learn from individuals representing parishes from across the Southeast.

Stewardship has been a high priority of the Diocese of Charlotte since 1988, according to the Diocese of Charlotte's Office of Development. The office's efforts to educate and assist parishes and individuals to adopt stewardship was reinforced by the U.S. Bishop's 1992 pastoral letter, "Stewardship: A Disciple's Response."

"A Christian steward is one who receives God's gifts gratefully, cherishes and tends them in a responsible and accountable manner, shares them in justice and love with others and returns them with increase to the Lord," says the document. "Each member of the church shares in responsibility for its mission; each is called to practice stewardship of the church."

"The Office of Development recognizes that when individuals embrace

stewardship as a way of life, their faith is deepened, their relationships with Jesus Christ grow, and the fruits of their stewardship benefit every aspect and ministry of the parish," said Barbara Gaddy, associate director of development for the Diocese of Charlotte.

Bishop J. Kevin Boland, bishop of Savannah and this year's keynote speaker, said stewardship is "very important to the church in the United States."

"We live in a nation that is highly individualized and puts such emphasis on the success of the individual over the common good. There's also a great emphasis placed on being in control and to dominate," said Bishop Boland. "The sharing of our goods takes away that concept. Stewardship is counter-cultural as to what the world is saying to us, and in that way it is very important."

In 1987, Bishop Boland was pastor of one of the Diocese of Savannah's first parishes to embrace stewardship. He continued his support and endorsement of stewardship upon becoming bishop in 1995.

His keynote address, "A Theology of Stewardship," was based on Scripture and contained examples from his life and experience.

"Stewardship has to have a foundation in faith and theology," he said. "It's a concept of being a disciple. We're sup-



PHOTO BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

**Bishop J. Kevin Boland, bishop of Savannah, speaks about theology and stewardship at the 2nd Annual Regional Stewardship Day Conference in Charlotte April 5.**

posed to be servant leaders in the name of the church and on behalf of Christ. You're called to a sacred task, and you're called to do it as best as you can, and that's part of the call to holiness."

Bishop Boland recommended ways to interest others in stewardship, from starting Eucharistic adoration in churches to creating ministries that appeal to the various age groups within the parishes.

"You have to identify ministries that they can partake in," said the bishop. "I don't think the challenge is to get them all together, but to identify something that they're really interested in."

The conference's 350 attendees had the opportunities to attend various breakout sessions throughout the day.

Gaddy and Our Lady of the Assumption Church parishioners Joe Vagnone and Judy Devlin presented "One Parish's 13-Year Stewardship Journey," in which they highlighted their Charlotte parish's stewardship evolution since 1990.

"Joe Vagnone, the mastermind behind this year's stewardship festival, brought a sense of fun and excitement never before experienced in the parish stewardship effort," said Gaddy. "I think he shared that same level of excitement with those who attended our seminar. He inspired everyone to go out and plan their own festival."

Jim Kelley, director of development for the Diocese of Charlotte, spoke about "Stewardship Committees" to help others get started or expand in their parish's stewardship efforts. Kelley covered committee responsibilities and how to select committee members.

"A prayerful and focused stewardship committee can make all the difference in a successful parish stewardship effort," said Kelley.

"Hospitality and Stewardship" with Father Raymond Carlo, pastor of Sacred Heart Church in Gaffney, S.C., and Trish Johnson, parish life director of St. Jude the Apostle Church in Atlanta, focused on hospitality from several perspectives, including programs for a large affluent suburban parish; for a small, semi-rural parish; and for the Hispanic community.

"Prayer and Spirituality" with Jeanne Zittrouer of Blessed Sacrament Church in Savannah, Ga., covered the details of integrating stewardship and spirituality into one's life.

"Keeping It Alive" with LeAnn Powers, director of development for Down Home Ranch, a working ranch for the mentally handicapped, detailed ideas for jump-starting stewardship interest in parishes.

"Communicating the Message" with Kathleen Varner, director of development at St. Catherine of Siena Church and School in Wake Forest, N.C., covered communication skills necessary to stewardship.

"I think the biggest challenge of spiritual leadership is to bring home to people that their ministry is done in Christ's name," said Bishop Boland. "The activism of living in the United States is that growth is the ultimate virtue. Not so — faith in Christ is the ultimate virtue."

*For more information on stewardship, contact Barbara Gaddy in the diocesan Office of Development at (704) 370-3302.*

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## VATICAN, from page 1

trol and international security, said he planned to immediately convey the Vatican's "constructive and helpful" proposals to Washington for transmission to field commanders in Iraq.

Vatican spokesman Joaquin Navarro-Valls said in a statement that Bolton "appreciated the willingness of the Catholic Church to collaborate in the humanitarian field to alleviate the sufferings of the Iraqi population." Neither he nor Bolton offered any specifics on what was discussed, and Bolton stressed that coalition military officials in Iraq would have the final say on implementing such proposals.

Bolton said the United States was aware of the need for "nonpolitical" help in distributing much-needed aid, since the elimination of Iraq's ruling Baath Party was also causing a breakdown in the country's food distribution system.

Bolton, who spoke at an embassy press conference, described his talks with Vatican officials as "a very useful exchange of ideas" and a continuation of a high-level U.S.-Vatican discussion regarding Iraq in recent months.

He said that the Vatican, despite having spoken out strongly against the use of military force prior to the war, was now focused on "looking toward the future" and preventing a humanitarian disaster, ensuring successful reconstruction and installing a representative Iraqi government.

Bolton also met separately with U.S. Cardinal J. Francis Stafford, president of the Pontifical Council for the Laity and former archbishop of Denver.

In February, Cardinal Stafford sharply criticized the U.S. government's push for military strikes on Iraq, saying war would be morally unjustified and a further alarming example of increased global use of violent force. He was not immediately available for comment after his meeting with Bolton.

Bolton, pressed on the issue by reporters, downplayed the Vatican's pre-war opposition, saying officials had made it clear that the moral decision to go to war ultimately fell to civil authorities.

"They recognize that the decision on the war has been made by the president and respected his conscience with which he took that decision," he said. "Their interest now is looking toward the future."

"The moral calculus involved here," Bolton added, "is the elimination of the terrible threat of weapons of mass destruction posed by the Saddam Hussein regime, as well as the liberation of the people of Iraq from tyranny and gross abuses of human rights that they have lived under for decades."

In his statement, Navarro-Valls said Bolton explained the danger posed by the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, repeated his government's commitment to respect the "rules of war" by avoiding civilian casualties, and underscored the need for a "rapid solution" to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict "to give the entire Middle East its opportunities

for peace."

Bolton told reporters the Vatican officials "flagged the seriousness with which they put the need to have concerted effort" to resolve the situation. He said they welcomed remarks the previous day by U.S. President George W. Bush emphasizing his commitment to work for a solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Asked about apprehension in the Arab world regarding the U.S. action in Iraq, Bolton said he was sure that the misgivings of most Arabs would subside when they saw the United States live up to its word of turning the country back over to the Iraqi people.

"Our objective is not a long-term presence in Iraq, but we hope to foster the conditions in which the Iraqi people themselves create new institutions of representative government, and in fact, for the first time in decades, allow the people of Iraq to govern themselves," he said.



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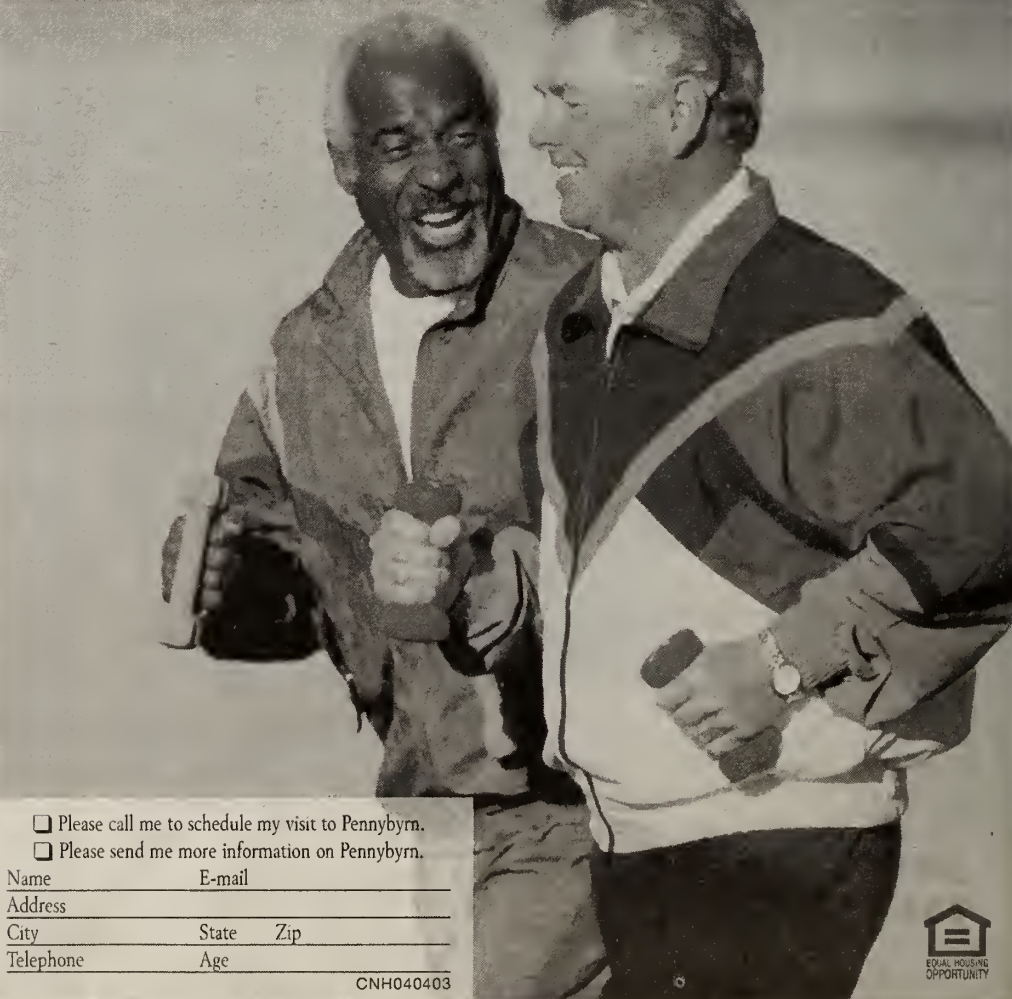
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# It's war, but is it just?

*Continuing discussion  
of church perspectives  
on Iraqi war*

By JOANITA M. NELLENBACH  
CORRESPONDENT

MAGGIE VALLEY — "At the moment, I still agree with the bishops that this doesn't qualify as a just war," Augustinian Father James J. McCartney said, "but if it ties to al Qaeda and weapons of mass destruction, then it probably is a just war."

Father McCartney, Ph. D., an associate professor of philosophy at Villanova University, presented "War: Causes, Justifications, Consequences and Alternatives" in St. Margaret Church's parish hall April 5.

He outlined Christianity's participation in war throughout the centuries and explained just war theory and Christian pacifism. "Christianity does not have a great history, at least in the West, in terms of warfare," he said.

During their first three centuries, Christians followed Jesus' admonition from the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5:43-48, Luke 6:27-28) to "love your enemies." They refused to fight even when persecuted.

However, when Constantine's "Edict of Milan" in 313 C.E. made Christianity the Roman Empire's official religion, things changed. Many Roman soldiers were Christians.

Now that Christianity had become acceptable, some church leaders defended the need for force of arms. "St. Augustine (354-430) saw order as necessary for a state and encouraged Roman soldiers to do their jobs," Father McCartney said. "St. Augustine, who is credited with creating the 'just war' tradition, never wrote a treatise on a just war, but he did claim that the 'Sermon on the Mount' refers to interior pacifism, your interior disposition."

Augustine thought that war was a

"necessary evil" resulting from original sin. He believed that military service wasn't wrong if it preserved order, but that one could not engage in war for "a wrong desire or libidinous attitude," and he denounced "Roman militarism and its glorification of armed violence."

Through the centuries Christians have fought those they considered infidels, as well as barbarians, many of whom had been evangelized by Christian missionaries. Crusaders invaded the Holy Land to regain control of Jerusalem. Monarchs believed God had anointed them, which gave them the right to conduct war.

Causes of war, Father McCartney said, include preservation of order, expansion of territory, religion, cultural hegemony (Western vs. Eastern values), promise of salvation, protection of territory, patriotism, pride and kidnapping (such as the kidnapping of Helen of Troy, which started the Trojan War).

War's consequences include destruction of empires and order; changing political boundaries; religious diversity and alienation; dislocation of refugees; pain, suffering and death; occasional healing of enmity; and rediscovery of the importance of peace.

The church's current stand on just war developed over time. Father McCartney referred to "The Challenge of Peace: God's Promise and Response," the U.S. bishops' "Pastoral Letter on War and Peace" (May 11, 1983) as an excellent summary of that position.

Just-war criteria include just cause, competent authority (as opposed to private individuals), comparative justice (which side is sufficiently "right" in a dispute), right intention, last resort, probability of success and proportionality (good outweighs the harm). Also, the response cannot be worse than the aggression that triggered it, and directly intended attacks on noncombatants and nonmilitary targets are prohibited.

Lively discussions ensued after the morning and afternoon presentations.

One person argued that the United States says it wants to bring democracy to Iraq, but people in America are ar-



PHOTO BY JOANITA M. NELLENBACH

From left, Jim Holt of St. Joseph Church, Bryson City; Gia Villapando and Dr. Cris Villapando, diocesan director of faith formation; Father James McCartney; Rev. Mr. Carl Hubbell, St. William, Murphy; Mary Herr, faith formation consultant; and retired Father James Cahill, former pastor of St. Mary, Sylva.

rested for protesting peacefully.

Notre Dame Sister Joanne O'Connor said, "It's like Jesus said, that we don't see the beam in our eye, but we see the spec in someone else's eye," and added that people need to avoid generalizations when referring to others.

"When I teach at Western (Carolina University)," said Dr. Jim Nicholl, "I can't turn to a black person and say, 'Well, what do black people think?'"

"One of the saddest consequences of (this war) is that good people from America are killing good people from Iraq," said Eduardo Bernal, coordinator for Hispanic Ministry in the Smoky Mountain Vicariate, speaking for his discussion group.

"My greatest disappointment is that everyone is debating the just-war theory, but nobody is talking about 'love your enemies,'" said Dr. Cris Villapando,

director of faith formation for the Diocese of Charlotte.

One woman asked about the pope's concern that the Iraq war could become a religious war.

"The pope knows his history and that Saddam Hussein sees this as an extension of the Crusades," Father McCartney said.

"The historical context he put it in was very helpful to me," said Jean-Marie Luce, a parishioner at St. Eugene Church in Asheville. "It helped me understand the church's perspective and different times in history. I still don't like the idea of the Crusades, so the pope's worry about religious war is certainly a valid concern."

Contact Correspondent Joanita M. Nellenbach by calling (828) 627-9209 or e-mail [jnellen@dnnet.net](mailto:jnellen@dnnet.net).

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## Youths fast to end world hunger



PHOTO BY JOANITA M. NELLENBACH

Carl Friberg receives communion from Augustinian Father Scott Ness as Andrew Nasis, Stephanie Bernardi and Melanie Verges wait their turns.

## HUNGER, from page 1

two friends of a group member, along with their advisors, were 13 hours into a 30-hour Lenten fast held April 5-6 at an Episcopal retreat site on Lake Logan in Haywood County.

HCY is comprised of middle and high school students from St. John Church in Waynesville, Immaculate Conception Church in Canton and St. Margaret Church in Maggie Valley. Praying aloud together has become essential to the HCY members.

"At first it was hard," Laura Constance said. "I didn't know what to say, but after awhile you get comfortable with it because they're family."

The teens balked at having a Lenten retreat, telling Steve Bernardi, HCY coordinator they do retreats all the time; they just want to fast and pray together.

And a 24-hour fast, they said, was too easy. They wanted to make more of a sacrifice.

"These people across the seas go four or five days without touching food," Carl Friberg said at the end of the fast. "We ate a big meal before we came out here, so 24 hours is nothing. We did it to get closer to God ... and to end world hunger."

"Every day the kids amaze me — the depth of their faith, their willingness to do things, to step outside the box, to stand up for their faith," Bernardi said.

Bernardi and St. John Church's youth ministers, Jason and Traci Higgins, spent the weekend with the group. Carol Constance, Laura's mother, also fasted although she wasn't able to stay at the lake for the entire weekend.

"I wanted to participate with my daughter," Carol said. "I think it's so important."

They subsisted on fruit juice and chicken broth, "hung out," went for a two-hour hike, then watched movies most of the night, after spending two hours praying and talking around the bonfire. Sunday morning, they worked on the prayer service they'll lead during the Diocese of Charlotte's youth conference April 25-27. Traci Higgins led a discussion on various forms of prayer, and there was quiet time for individual prayer.

A lakeshore Eucharist, celebrated by Augustinian Father Scott Ness, broke the fast Sunday afternoon. After Eucharist, everyone filled up at a hamburger and hot dog cookout.

"Getting away like this is not selfish, but is a way to know yourself better," Father Ness told them as the Mass began. "I hope whatever you take away from this you'll make it real, to be there for other people. Give yourselves away every chance you can."

The Lenten fast was one of the first significant activities they did after they organized nearly five years ago.

"Somebody in the group said something about (another church) having a 30-hour famine," Bernardi said. "I said, 'That's great, let's do it ourselves.'"

The first three fasts (some were 24 hours) were held at members' homes, but this year the group wanted something different, so Lake Logan was selected.

Along with this year's 30-hour fast, each participant chose something from "30-30-30." They could give \$30 to Catholic Relief Services, donate 30 cans of food to St. John Church's food pantry, or spend 30 minutes in continuous prayer or meditation for an end to world hunger.

"Every time we open ourselves, as you're doing this weekend, we receive blessings, food to strengthen us," Father Ness said in his homily, then asked the HCY members why they wanted to do the fast.

"To bring myself closer to God," Laura Constance said. "Food takes up a lot of people's time and can be a way of getting out of having to do something else."

Stephanie Bernardi recognized that "we take so much for granted."

"We take food for granted," Melanie Verges said. "People are hungry all the time."

When Father Ness asked what they thought about during the fast, Verges replied, "Because of what's going on in Iraq, they spend their time trying to find food. Our prayer last night was not only that we could continue our fast but that they won't have to go through that every day."

Contact Correspondent Joanita M. Nellenbach by calling (828) 627-9209 or e-mail [jnell@dnet.net](mailto:jnell@dnet.net).

## 9-11 revisited by author

By KEVIN E. MURRAY  
ACTING EDITOR

CHARLOTTE — Joseph Lambert, a parishioner of Our Lady of Consolation Church, has written a new book on the tragic events of Sept. 11, 2001.

Entitled "9-11: America Under Attack," the book offers readers a different approach to the terrorist strikes that resulted in the deaths of over 3,000 Americans.

"I wanted to tell a story about why people in the Middle East were being so aggressive and belligerent toward the United States," said Lambert, "and let my readers have a different perspective from the plotters' point of view and why they did what they did."

Lambert calls the work a historical fiction — one that keeps intact the facts of the tragedy while adding a human face to the events with dialogue, emotion and cultural perspective of those involved.

"It (the book) was very well researched," said Janet DeSantis, a parishioner of St. Vincent de Paul Church in Charlotte. "It's a more personal aspect of the lives of the people involved."

Also hoping to lend a "spiritual perspective" to the story, Lambert includes a religious tribute entitled "My Song to America" at the end of the book.

"... You must arise and sing a song of praise to the Lord even when you are distressed, for you know not what the future holds," writes Lambert. "Today's burden or disappointment could very well be a critical life-learning experience for tomorrow's success."

Lambert believes the United States has to do something to combat terrorism "before it really explodes."

"These atrocities have been tak-



PHOTO BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

St. Vincent de Paul Church parishioner Janet DeSantis looks on as Our Lady of Consolation Church parishioner Joseph Lambert signs a copy of his new book, "9-11: America Under Attack" at Park Road Books in Charlotte April 5.

ing place in other parts of the world, but the United States didn't do anything about it until the United States was attacked," he said. "Now they're doing something."

Lambert, a native of Sierra Leone who came to the United States in 1992, has also authored "Amistad Wahala," the chronicle of slaves whose capture, revolt and fight for freedom added to the growing 19th-century argument over the institution of slavery.

For a copy of "9-11: America Under Attack" by Joseph Lambert, visit any major bookstore or call (704) 336-8707 or e-mail [lambegb@aol.com](mailto:lambegb@aol.com).

Contact Acting Editor Kevin E. Murray by calling (704) 370-3334 or e-mail [kemurray@charlottediocese.org](mailto:kemurray@charlottediocese.org).

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# Book battle benefits students

By KEVIN E. MURRAY  
ACTING EDITOR

ASHEVILLE — Asheville Catholic School took fifth place in the Battle of the Books held in Raleigh March 31.

Ten students competed in the regional competition after winning first place against other area private and public schools, including Immaculata School in Hendersonville, in the local competition at Park Place library March 18.

"We had a great time at the Battle of the Books. We competed against some great schools," said Pamela Budd, school librarian and the students' coach.

The academic competition, open to sixth-, seventh- and eighth-graders, is similar to a spelling bee, said Budd; it involves answering questions relating to a list of books the students were given to read over the summer. The list included historical fiction, classics and fantasy novels.

"We're talking about some power books here," said Budd.

Certain books are chosen because they contain characters near in age to the middle schoolers.

"The issues in the books often concern characters their age," said Budd. "The books help them solve problems."

Budd would test the interested students on the books; then, she would choose the top students to participate in the local competition.

"We've been preparing all year for



COURTESY PHOTO

Pictured are (back row from left) Brit Sluder; Kate Evans; Sean Dowty; Chelsea Rosauer; (second row from left) Johnny Eckerd, Kelly Olesiuk; Natalie Burns; William Head; Zach DeBernardi; (front row from left) Caitlin Bradley; Clint Cogburn.

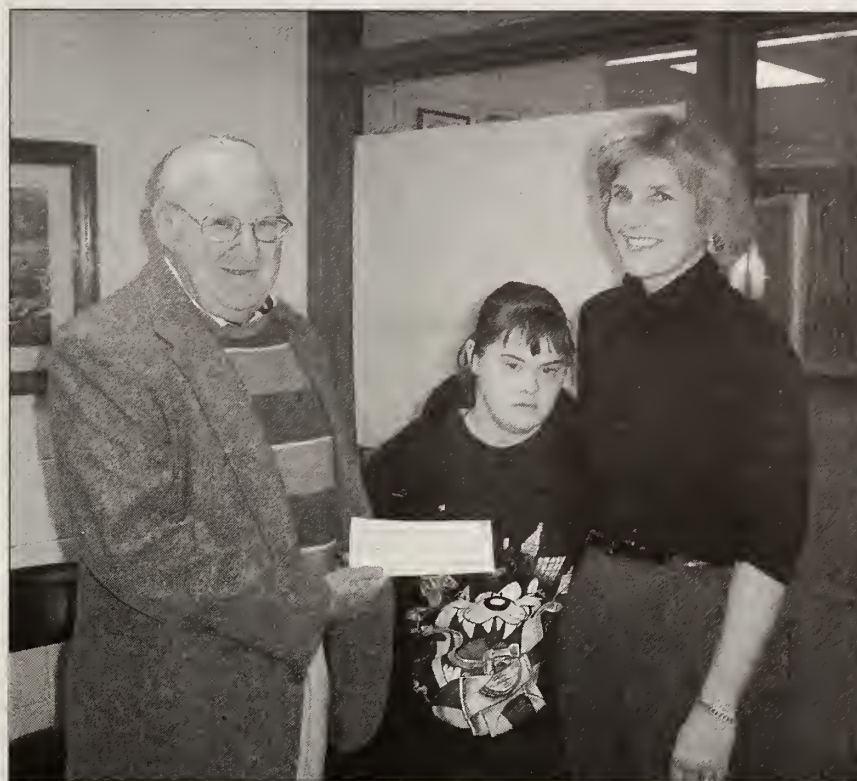
this," said Budd. "We would meet after school."

The work paid off. Winning the local competition was a first for Asheville Catholic. And although they didn't win the regional contest, Budd still felt the students benefited from the experience.

"It's a wonderful academic competition," she said. "It keeps the middle schoolers reading and it exposes them to books they'd normally never pick up."

Contact Acting Editor Kevin E. Murray by calling (704) 370-3334 or e-mail kemurray@charlottediocese.org.

# A grand gesture



COURTESY PHOTO

Past Grand Knight Jack McCloskey of Knights of Columbus Council 6970 in Eden/Reidsville presents a check March 11 to Martha Storey, a Special Olympian who will compete in the state basketball event in Raleigh, and Betty Searce, a teacher and representative from Special Olympics of Rockingham County. The check was part of the Knights' Operation Lamb campaign.

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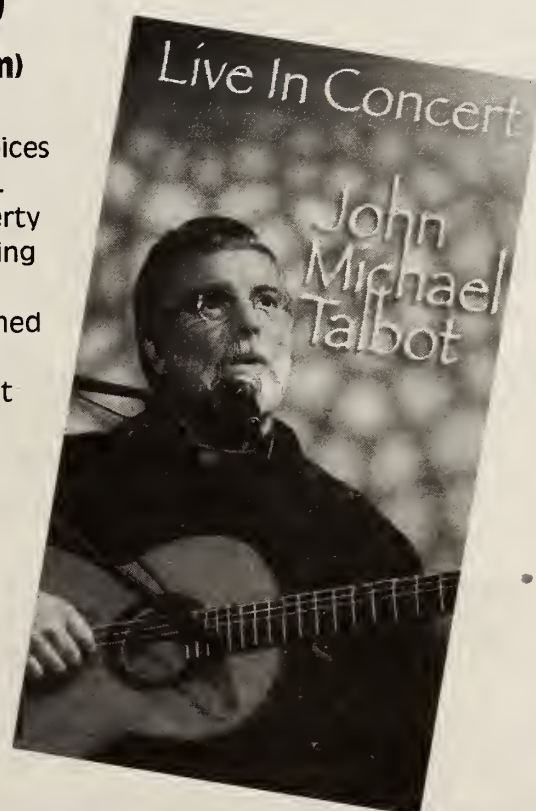
John Michael Talbot's music is a rich blend of Spirit-filled meditation with acoustic instruments, sometimes with voices and orchestra. An active Catholic, his life's inspiration is St. Francis of Assisi and his community requires vows of poverty and service. His personal income is from book and recording sales only. He is a Dove Award winner with numerous nominations for that award and his *Birth of Jesus* was named Best Christmas Album by Billboard Magazine. In 2001, he performed for the Inaugural Prayer Luncheon of President George W. Bush.

**Paramedic Tim Hayes** answered the call to help injured drivers on I-77 during a late January ice storm. An out-of-control tractor-trailer slammed into a line of vehicles on the shoulder at the crash scene. Although Tim's partner warned him as he jumped to safety, Tim remained a few fateful seconds to insure the safety of the injured. When he tried to escape, it was too late as his legs, which later had to be removed, were crushed against the guardrail. Tim sacrificed much to help others and now we have a chance to help a REAL HERO in our community.

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## Book Review

# Torture examined as personal agony and political technique

REVIEWED BY FRIDA BERRIGAN  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

From the first words of the preface, "The Blindfold's Eyes: My Journey from Torture to Truth" demands tears, outrage and action. It is the story of Ursuline Sister Dianna Ortiz, written in her voice with the help of author Patricia Davis.

In 1989 Sister Ortiz was working in Guatemala. After receiving a number of death threats, she was abducted, tortured and raped by members of the Guatemalan security forces. The ordeal only lasted 24 hours, but it marks her and will haunt her for the rest of her life.

But it is more than a painful memoir of her trauma and slow (and ongoing) recovery. The book is also a denunciation of U.S. support for the Guatemalan government through its long dirty war. It is the search of Sister Ortiz for the truth of what happened to her. It is an investigation of the effectiveness of torture as a political tool for silencing dis-

peel it away.

Sister Ortiz demands attention — but not just for herself. She demands attention for all Guatemalans who suffered and continue to suffer. "I don't have the right to be silent. For some reason I survived. ... I have to use my life to work against the practices of torture." In 1998 she helped found Torture Abolition and Survivors Support Coalition International, where she now serves as executive director.

In a recent essay in Sojourner's magazine, she makes the connection between what she experienced a decade ago and what people are experiencing in the United States right now. She writes that, under the guise of fighting the war on terrorism, "attorneys and journalists are advocating the legislation of torture in the United States. Over a thousand people are being secretly detained." She counsels against this approach as a way of containing the threat of terrorism, saying, "the damage torture does can never be undone. If I survived for any reason it is to say that."

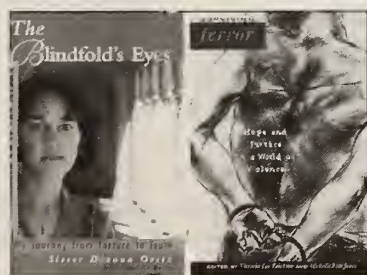
And it is a critical time to be listening to the victims. Amnesty International has documented an increase in torture. In 1999, 114 countries practiced torture. For 2001, that number increased to 150. The group's most recent report is a harrowing investigation into torture in the Philippines, a close ally to the United States in the war on terrorism.

Informed by the contradictions of the "war on terrorism," editors Victoria Lee Erickson and Michelle Lin Jones offer their "Surviving Terror: Hope and Justice in a World of Violence." This collection of essays by religious scholars and activists from around the world investigates the history and politics of terror, torture and survival, and the theological imperative to respond.

The essays were written before the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, but Erickson and Jones locate their work in a world defined by terror, a terror that America is only now discovering and must take responsibility for.

Erickson and Jones write that victims and survivors of torture, like Sister Ortiz, compel us to "face the terror we are all capable of producing in order to transform and overcome it." The authors of both volumes ask us to take up that task.

*Berrigan works to promote restraint in the international arms trade as an associate at the Arms Trade Resource Center, a project of the World Policy Institute in New York City.*



sent and squashing organizing. It is a story of suffering and overcoming, despairing and resisting, being blinded and recovering sight.

"The Blindfold's Eyes" refers to how Sister Ortiz continued to be blinded by the experience of torture long after the cloth was removed from her eyes and she escaped to the relative safety of the United States. She had no memory; she was ruled by fear; she felt guilty for having survived. Recovery was glacially slow. It came through therapy, connection with other torture survivors, friendship and fighting to discover the truth of what happened.

Her healing is not a steady slope. She contemplates suicide. She doubts her faith. In one moving passage, she concludes that it was an "act of resistance to refuse to believe that God was dead. ... Maybe my absence of belief in God was another blindfold the tortures had tied on, one I could now take off." Again and again she finds the blindfold keeping her from being a full part of the human family, and again and again she must

## Word to Life

Sunday Scripture  
Readings: April 13, 2003

April 13, Palm Sunday  
Cycle B Readings:

- 1) Isaiah 50:4-7  
Psalm 22:8-9, 17-18a,  
19-20, 23-24
- 2) Philippians 2:6-11
- 3) Gospel: Mark 14:1-15:47

By BOZENA CLOUTIER  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

A few days ago I finally erased a message that had been on my answering machine for a full year.

It was from my 5-year-old grandson. When his parents told him that my younger sister had died very unexpectedly on Valentine's Day, he asked if he could call me.

I was not at home when he called, so he left a message. It was very straightforward as in the manner of children, yet full of compassion and love. After he had told me how sorry he was about my sister's death, he went on to say that he hoped I'd have a happy Valentine's Day anyway, and then, in a phrase that touched me deeply, he added; "Nana, I am very, very sad."

In the ensuing year I often replayed Calvin's message. Each time I was moved by his empathy, his unabashed love, but most especially by his courage. It takes courage for a small boy to call the grandmother he sees only a few times a year and speak so frankly. The message became very

familiar, but never stale and never lost its power to console.

This Palm Sunday we again listen to the familiar account of the Lord's Passion. We feel sadness in our own hearts and sense it among the assembly worshipping with us. We are moved by the fate Jesus suffered, and we feel the heaviness of the injustice and cruelty.

These feelings, good in themselves, are not enough. Like Calvin we need to go further. We need to have the courage to move into action that will express not just empathy but love that heals.

The great psychiatrist of the 20th century, Karl Menninger, once said: "Love heals. It heals those who receive it, and it heals those who give it." We know all too well that the body of Christ, the church, is in much need of healing. We are also keenly aware that we ourselves need healing. It is in the action springing from courageous love that we share in Jesus' passion and his service of healing.

### Questions:

In what area of your life do you need healing? Thinking concretely, how and where can you take loving action?

### Scripture to Illustrate:

"The Lord God has given me a well-trained tongue, that I might know how to speak to the weary a word that will rouse them.... And I have not rebelled" (Isaiah 50:4-5).

## Weekly Scripture

### Scripture for the week of April 13 - April 19

Sunday (Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion), Mark 11:1-10, Isaiah 50:4-7, Philippians 2:6-11, Mark 14:1-15:47; Monday (Holy Week), Isaiah 42:1-7, John 12:1-11; Tuesday (Holy Week), Isaiah 49:1-6, John 13:21-33, 36-38; Wednesday (Holy Week), Isaiah 50:4-9, Matthew 26:14-25; Thursday (Holy Thursday), Exodus 12:1-8, 11-14, 1 Corinthians 11:23-26, John 13:1-5; Friday (Good Friday), Isaiah 52:13-53:12, Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9, John 18:1-19:42; Saturday (Easter Vigil), Exodus 14:15-15:1, Psalm 118:1-2, 16-23, Mark 16:1-7

### Scripture for the week of April 20 - April 26

Sunday (Easter Sunday), Acts 10:34, 37-43, 1 Corinthians 5:6-8, John 20:1-9; Monday (Easter Monday), Acts 2:14, 22-23, Matthew 28:8-15; Tuesday (Easter Tuesday), Acts 2:36-41, John 20:11-18; Wednesday (Easter Wednesday), Acts 3:1-10, Luke 24:13-35; Thursday (Easter Thursday), Acts 3:11-26, Luke 24:35-48; Friday (Easter Friday), Acts 4:1-12, John 21:1-14; Saturday (Easter Saturday), Acts 4:13-21, Mark 16:9-15

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# Beware the ringing phone

*'Phone Booth' is fast-paced, profane thriller*

By GERRI PARE  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

NEW YORK — Unable to resist the persistent ring of a telephone, a callous young man answers, putting his whole world in danger in the shrill thriller "Phone Booth" (20th Century Fox).

With virtually the entire movie set in a Manhattan street corner phone booth, director Joel Schumacher has his work cut out for him to maintain interest. However, he made a good choice in casting hotshot Irish actor Colin Farrell in the pivotal role of Stu Shepard, the obnoxious publicist who picks up the phone. Farrell carries the movie with his ability to travel an emotional arc convincingly, beginning as an egotistical creep but gradually being reduced to a cowering and humbled sinner ashamed of his many shortcomings.

Yet this is not an enjoyable movie for those who rightly detest hearing four-letter words screamed in anger during nearly every line of dialogue. Such language is dramatically unnecessary and really diminishes the moral point of the film about the need for personal integrity. Similar to warning viewers that a film's gory visuals require a strong stomach, strong ears are called for here — or better yet, turning a deaf ear.

The fast-paced opening scene cleverly captures the manipulative character of double-dealing publicist Stu, who is seen strutting through the Times Square area. He alternates cajoling media people on a cell phone with barking commands to the intimidated assistant groveling next to him, all the time calculating how to force everyone to do his bidding.

Aided by Farrell's sneering, rapid-fire delivery, this scene played out as a guilty pleasure to an audience of movie critics who are often treated with impunity by studio publicists.

Stu is married to Kelly (Radha Mitchell) and, lest she notice his cell phone bills, he uses a glass phone booth in the area to call would-be actress Pam (Katie Holmes), whom he's vainly hoping to lure to a nearby hotel. Upon hanging up, the phone rings and by answer-

ing Stu discovers a sniper (Kiefer Sutherland) is on the other end insisting he call his wife and confess his adulterous plans. While Stu curses the man out, a pimp demanding he leave the booth gets aggressive and the sniper shoots the intruder dead. A shocked Stu realizes he now must obey the sniper's commands or die.

The police arrive, headed by Capt. Ramey (Forest Whitaker), and demand he drop his nonexistent gun and come out. (Three foul-mouthed prostitutes who were nearby swear they saw Stu shoot their pimp.) But the sniper insists he stay put and not explain why or face death. The laser red dot Stu sees on his chest is quite persuasive.

After a while, the shrill and narrowly focused film begins to lose momentum, spiked only by the arrival of Stu's wife, and then his would-be girlfriend. The sniper makes them — and Ramey — targets as well to further terrify Stu, who has witnessed one murder and doesn't want to see any more blood shed on his account. Cop Whitaker is effective in his role, although the cliché of a power struggle between the cop and a professional negotiator who wants to seize control of the situation is dreary filler.

In actuality, most of the film was shot in Los Angeles and its release last year was delayed lest it look exploitative as it would have coincided with the deadly sniper attacks in the Washington area.

One gets no real psychological handle on the vigilante sniper, who is so offended by Stu's arrogant personality and lustful intentions that he decides Stu must join the others he has already executed.

But Larry Cohen's script is at least a character study of a self-obsessed yuppie who must learn the hard way the importance of honesty and respect for others. It's just the audience's misfortune that it is played out in such a profane manner and with logical inconsistencies, like why Stu's wife seems so blissfully unaware that he is one nasty individual.

Schumacher tries to keep the deliberately claustrophobic visuals compelling by using split screens, but by its



CNS PHOTO FROM COLUMBIA PICTURES

## Manage your 'Anger' — avoid the movie

Jack Nicholson and Adam Sandler star in a scene from "Anger Management," a displeasing comedy in which a meek businessman (Sandler) is ordered to take intensive anger management behavior from a volatile therapist (Nicholson) who proceeds to steal his girlfriend. Targeted to teen boys, the emphasis on sex and that size matters is disturbing while the plot contrivances are unconvincing. Some comically intended violence, continuous sexual references, brief same-sex kissing, an implied affair and an instance of rough language. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-IV — adults, with reservations. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13 — parents are strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.

double-twist ending viewers may question whether this was a call worth answering.

Due to intermittent violence, crass sexual references, constant rough language and recurring profanity, the USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-IV — adults, with reservations. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is R — restricted.

Pare is director of the Office for Film & Broadcasting of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.



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## The Pope Speaks

POPE JOHN PAUL II

### Pope prays for peace in Africa, expresses concern for Iraqi war

By CINDY WOODEN  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — While expressing his concern for the ongoing "destruction and death" in Iraq, Pope John Paul II asked people to pray for peace in Africa as well.

Appealing for peace at his weekly general audience April 9, the pope condemned continuing ethnic conflicts in central Africa, especially the April 3 massacre of hundreds of civilians in northeastern Congo.

In praying for all the victims of the massacre, the pope said, "I address a heartfelt appeal to political leaders as well as to all people of good will so that they commit themselves to stopping the violence and abuses."

The pope asked for international support for "every effort at reconciliation" needed not only in Congo, but also in Uganda and Rwanda, and for the peace processes under way in Burundi and Sudan.

He prayed that the peace Africans so deeply desire "soon will blossom."

U.N. officials said April 9 that tribal militias armed with machetes and guns massacred up to 350 civilians in and around Drodro, Congo. Officials said initial estimates of up to 1,000 massacred included the injured.

In his main audience talk, Pope John Paul spoke about Psalm 135, which combines a hymn of praise to God with a profession of faith that God is Lord over the whole universe and that he will save those who have faith in him.

The pope quoted St. Clement as explaining, "The mighty creator and master of the universe ordained all creatures to act in peace and concord, thus benefiting the universe, but most abundantly ourselves who have taken refuge under his mercies through Our Lord Jesus Christ."

Greeting various groups present at the audience in St. Peter's Square, the pope said the fullest expression of the liberation promised to God's people in the Old Testament "is accomplished in Jesus Christ Our Lord through his death and resurrection."

"We are approaching Holy Week when we relive the great mysteries of our redemption," the pope said. "Let us follow Christ, Our Lord and king, in the Palm Sunday procession. Let us enter the upper room with him and with him climb Calvary in order to reach the joy of the Resurrection."

### Who cares if an innocent person is executed?

A late February story on the front page of The New York Times was literally shocking. A Missouri death-row inmate, claiming new evidence, was trying to have his conviction reopened. The prosecutor was in front of Judge Laura Denvir Stith trying to block this.

"Are you suggesting," she asked the prosecutor, that "even if we find Mr. Amrine is actually innocent, he should be executed?"

Frank A. Jung, an assistant state attorney general, replied, "That's correct, your honor."

As the story went on, the justification for not allowing new evidence, brought in after a trial and appeal, that might prove the innocence of a person on death row is quite practical, because as Jeremiah W. Nixon, Missouri's attorney general, explained, there must come a time when cases can be closed. In other words, what's important here is the clock.

If time runs out because of some arbitrary deadline blocking new evidence — even DNA proof that a convicted person did not do that crime — well, that's just tough luck. Acknowledged innocence doesn't matter. The deadline does. As New York Times letter writer Eric B. Lipps pointed out: "This is not justice or even vengeance. It's death for the convenience of the state."

I have corresponded for seven years with Robert J. Zani, a prisoner in Texas, a state that keeps its death house busy, having executed 13 people just in January and February. Zani has written to me extensively about "acknowledged innocence" and how the criminal justice system cares not at all about this.

In a quite recent letter, he wrote, "Congress still cannot get enough votes to pass the Innocence Protection Act," an attempt to require states to consent to DNA testing where such evidence might provide proof of innocence or even guilt. Zani went on: "Billion for tax cuts. But not a red cent for innocence. Innocence is irrelevant to them. See what Jesus and John the Baptist were up against?"

I don't believe the American people want to be a party to killing innocent people. Most people refuse to believe such a thing could happen. But it does, as

## The Bottom Line

ANTOINETTE BOSCO  
CNS COLUMNIST



Americans learned when Gov. George Ryan of Illinois had to confront what journalism students had uncovered and proved — that 13 death-row prisoners in his state were innocent. He then declared a moratorium on executions to prevent "the worst nightmare a state can face, the killing of an innocent person."

Hollywood and Broadway are now stepping in to show that such killing can and does happen. The movie, "The Life of David Gale," is a stunner, a cleverly plotted tale about how some anti-death penalty workers prove an innocent man can be executed. The movie made me uncomfortable, even as it made its point — that this nightmare can and has happened.

Much more effective is the off-Broadway play "The Exonerated." Here, actors tell the harrowing stories of five men and one woman who spent years on death row in different states and then were found innocent and released. I had the privilege of meeting the woman, Sunny Jacobs, a few years ago. Her story of justice gone awry is in my book "Choosing Mercy, A Mother of Murder Victims Pleads to End the Death Penalty."

Innocence is relevant. The New York Times has reported: "Once a jury has reached a verdict or a judge has ruled, lawyers say, the odds are overwhelmingly against reopening a case, no matter how compelling the new information is."

This is incomprehensible, and as citizens we should protest.

## Letters to the Editor

### Clarification of the catechism needed

Joe Purello's guest column regarding capital punishment ("Catholic Church supports death penalty moratorium," March 21) needs some clarification.

Although it would appear that the church does not endorse capital punishment because of the U.S. bishops' pastoral letter, "Responsibility, Rehabilitation and Restoration 2000," my "Catechism of the Catholic Church," "Liberia Editrice Vaticana," copyright 1994, says it does: "The Church has acknowledged as well-rounded the right and duty of legitimate public authority to punish malefactors by means commensurate with the gravity of the crime, not excluding in the case of extreme gravity, the death penalty."

Why doesn't the church publish an addendum to this obsolete statement of doctrine, so we can all hear it and set the record straight?

Capital punishment is just as wrong and sinful as abortion ... it is a demonstration of extreme human arrogance not unlike Lucifer's challenge to God's authority. Capital punishment presumes that our justice system and our intellect are "perfect" and our vengeance is justified. Incidentally, capital punishment doesn't deter crime.

Only God should decide who lives and who dies. As the Bible points out so well: "Vengeance is Mine, sayeth the Lord." And for those who still can't (or won't) see the light on this subject, it is also a violation of the Fifth Commandment to kill someone.

How can we at least set the record straight in the catechism and make it loud and clear for our legislators to stop capital punishment?

Donald Henderson  
Mooresville

### Response to Donald Henderson's letter

I appreciate the opportunity Acting Editor Kevin Murray has given me to respond to Donald Henderson's letter.

On Sept. 8, 1997, the Vatican announced certain modifications to the catechism that included significant changes to the language regarding the death penalty. These modifications followed upon Pope John Paul II's 1995 encyclical, "Evangelium Vitae" ("The Gospel of Life") in which he expresses hope in the growing public opposition to the death penalty and states that "modern society in fact has the means of effectively suppressing crime by rendering criminals harmless without definitively denying them the chance to reform (27)."

The text of paragraph 2267 of the 1997 revised catechism states (see below) that since there are resources and other means of achieving the protection of society from violent offenders, the use of the death penalty should be a rare occurrence, if not completely non-existent.

2267 "Assuming that the guilty party's identity and responsibility have been fully determined, the traditional teaching of the church does not exclude recourse to the death penalty, if this is the only possible way of effectively defending human lives against the unjust aggressor. If, however, non-lethal means are sufficient to defend and protect people's safety from the aggressor, authority will limit itself to such means, as these are more in keeping with the concrete conditions of the common good and more in conformity with the dignity of the human person."

"Today, in fact, as a consequence of the possibilities which the state has for effectively preventing crime, by rendering one who has committed an offense incapable of doing harm — without definitively taking away from him the possibility of redeeming himself — the cases in which the execution of the offender is an absolute necessity 'are rare, if not practically non-existent.'"

Joseph Purello  
Director, Office of Justice and Peace





## Light One Candle

MSGR. JIM LISANTE  
GUEST COLUMNIST

### Goodbye, neighbor

My nephew, like most baby boys, was a bundle of energy. When he learned to walk, chasing him down became a major preoccupation for every adult in the family. Matthew was a child only one man was able to calm — someone he never met, but who was a part of his day, just about every day. That man's name was Fred Rogers.

Mr. Rogers, the television personality and staple of public television, had an effect on my nephew that no one else could match. Sitting in his high chair, Matthew would study this gentle man. And, in turn, energy-filled Matthew would become the soul of serenity. Until my nephew came into our lives, I never really "got" Mr. Rogers. His calm I interpreted as boring. His songs seemed plain silly. His style in dress and manner were anachronistic. But my nephew, and millions of other children like him, saw something that I'd clearly missed.

What I saw as dull, they saw as kind, non-threatening and appealing. What I found saccharine, they found affirming. He told them time and time again that they mattered, that they made a difference. He let them know that not one of them was a mistake or an accident. Instead, he assured them that they had a special place in the world only they could fill. And whatever their gifts and their limits, he helped them discover how truly beautiful they are. And he did it with total sincerity. He

was an obviously well educated and experienced teacher. (In fact, he was a Presbyterian minister.) But looking at the camera, into the hearts of young people, he seemed more like a good friend. And it worked. He taught and he encouraged. He upheld and he inspired. His reassuring routine of changing from shoes to sneakers, of getting into a cardigan sweater was calming. It's the kind of thing we do with people we like, people with whom we're truly comfortable.

Two years ago, The Christophers acknowledged the difference this beautiful man had made in the lives of so many by giving him a Special Christopher Award. From the moment he stepped off the elevator in the Time Life Building here in New York, where our award ceremony takes place, Mr. Rogers was surrounded by admirers. They all had a tale to tell about how he had touched their lives. They wanted to thank an old friend who offered them the precious gifts of reassurance, of encouragement, and of the knowledge that God did a marvelous job when He made them.

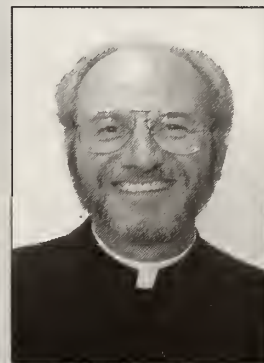
Here's the miracle I saw that night: Fred Rogers had probably heard what those people said a million times before. He was often surrounded by fans. And you'd think that he'd have pat remarks for handling these comments in a quick and facile way. But he didn't. Each and every person he talked to got his full and undivided attention. When Mr. Rogers looked you in the eyes, you felt like it was just the two of you and that you mattered. Knowing the sincerity of the man, I think that is exactly the way he felt.

On Feb. 27, this year, the Christopher Awards were held again — ironically, on the very day Fred Rogers went to God. We were saddened, of course, at his passing, but also happy that we had the chance to recognize and celebrate the life of someone who knew why we're here. Because from the outset of their young lives, my nephew and millions like him got to see someone who truly embodied the belief that there's no one like you. Each of us is special. And compassion, gentleness and caring are, in the end, all that truly matter.

Mr. Fred Rogers, rest in peace, good neighbor.

## Economy of Faith

GLENMARY FATHER  
JOHN S. RAUSCH  
GUEST COLUMNIST



### Pastors speak to the war with Iraq

When Father Gerry Peterson attends the "Support the Troops" rally sponsored by the American Legion in Pontotoc, Miss., his sign will read: "I Support Troops, But Not President's War. Pray For Peace." His message reflects the feelings of pastors and parish priests who struggle with their conviction about the immorality of the war with Iraq and their ministry to parishioners. I found his sentiment common among priests I contacted in an informal survey.

"My patriotism is not the same as nationalism, which means whatever the government says, you back," he said.

Priests who preach on Sunday mornings must balance the voice of Pope John Paul II, who said that war "is always a defeat for humanity," with the reality of parishioners deployed to the war zone. More pointedly, preachers face the Vatican consensus that the war with Iraq fails the moral criteria of the just war theory.

The Vatican opposed preemptive war on theoretical grounds and emphasized more time was needed before the "war as a last resort" criterion could be invoked. It saw a serious threat from Iraq's lethal weapons, but not an imminent one. Additionally, the Vatican encouraged supporting international law and favored strengthening the global institutions that promote dialogue, such as the United Nations. Instead, the United States, by initiating its war with Iraq, at this time appears to follow the principles of "might makes right" and "the ends justify the means."

The church finds itself with two roles. It must speak with a prophetic voice against the war with Iraq and, at the same time, comfort the military and their families with pastoral care. It can approach these goals with prayer, both private and liturgical, education and public witness.

Priests are encouraging the parish rosary or incorporating prayers from the Mass "In Time of War." Petitions during the "Prayer of the Faithful" commonly include world peace, the troops and the Iraqi people "because they are all children of God." The horizontal dimension of public prayer raises awareness that only God's power can bring peace to the world and individual hearts.

For Father George Kloster in Murphy, N.C., the war offers Catholics a special opportunity to reexamine their view of our country and its direction: "We like to think our nation is a Christian country blessed by God, but in reality it is a secular country. Just look at the way we allocate our budget — it's not for the widow, orphan or poor."

His Smokey Mountain Vicariate plans an educational program with a philosopher from Villanova University discussing the complex dimensions of war.

Many times public witness remains a unique way to put feet under prayer. Rallies and prayer vigils have sprung up even in small towns throughout America.

The church recognizes that men and women joined the military to serve with the best motives. Critics argue that the administration failed them with imprudent decisions that thrust them into a morally questionable war.

### Freemasons at the church's highest levels?

*Q. I know Catholics are not allowed to join the Freemasons. However, I am reading some material, well documented, that Masonry controls very high levels of the Catholic Church.*

*Pope John Paul II appointed a cardinal to one of the Vatican congregations who was initiated into the Masonic rite Sept. 28, 1957, No. 41-076. His code name is CASA.*

*You probably use the Novus Ordo (New Order) of the Mass. But do you know this Ordo, which "replaced" the Tridentine Mass, was composed by an archbishop who was initiated into Freemasonry April 23, 1963, No. 1365-75? His code name is BUAN.*

*He was reported to the Holy Father in July 1975 as being a Freemason, but nothing was done about it!*

*The list I have contains 122 other high-ranking Masonic Catholic Church officials. I can understand why this is generally not known in the new church. Can you help? (New Jersey)*

A. I hope readers of this column will realize I thought long and hard about this sad letter and addressing this subject again. My mail gives evidence that people who like to believe these sorts of allegations, even to the point of calling the pope the anti-Christ, are back stronger than ever.

They are well funded and number in the thousands, especially, it seems, along the Eastern Seaboard of the United States. But their literature, videotapes and books reach across the country.

To say the truth bluntly, these accusations, in addition to being slander and an insult to the integrity and service to the church of all the individuals involved, from the pope on down, are an insult to the intelligence of Catholic people.

It is another tragic example of the loss of civility and tolerance in public dialogue in today's church and larger society. Some people feel free to attack their "enemy" with every possible viciousness, regardless of honesty, truth or integrity.

Individuals believe accusations and attacks made

## Question Corner

FATHER JOHN DIETZEN  
CNS COLUMNIST



with no evidence or proof. With no effort to check the facts, they don't hesitate to spread the most outlandish allegations as widely as possible.

Ridiculous as it is to be forced to deny them, someone needs to declare what most Catholics of good sense would conclude on their own — that these accusations are without foundation and false.

My purpose in writing this is not to defend people who in this need no defense. Perhaps some Catholics still need to be alerted, however, to the existence of these destructive tactics on the part of people who feel more and more abandoned as the church gets on with its life.

Compassion is due those who can't handle spiritual growth and development in the body of Christ. Their way of responding to their frustrations, however, is so bizarre that the very extravagance of their accusations might make an ordinary person say: No charges like these could possibly be made against church officials unless the accusers had real solid proof.

In calmer times, in an atmosphere of thoughtful and tolerant discourse, it might be safe to assume this kind of moral responsibility. Sadly, one cannot make such an assumption today.

Questions may be sent to Father John Dietzen, P.O. Box 325, Peoria, IL, 61651 or e-mail: [jjdietzen@aol.com](mailto:jjdietzen@aol.com).





COURTESY PHOTO

### Parishioners meet to form funeral planning committee

NEWTON — Katherine Cuzzone and Marianne Larson, parishioners of St. Aloysius Church in Hickory, met with members of St. Joseph Church in Newton March 10 to help them form a parish funeral planning committee. Cuzzone and Larson shared their experiences in serving families during those stressful times relating to the loss of a loved one. Pictured are (front row from left) Kris Mulligan, Barbara Nesbitt, Barbara Nunziata, Kathy Mott, (back row from left) Katherine Cuzzone, Kathy Phenix, Marianne Larson, Don Mott, Rev. Mr. Scott Gilfillan and St. Joseph pastor Father Jim Collins.

## CCHS yearbook advisor speaks at Columbia University

CHARLOTTE — Beverly Doyle, Charlotte Catholic High School yearbook advisor, was asked to speak at the Columbia Scholastic Press Association's 79th Annual Convention at Columbia University in New York City March 19-21.

"You are a model of excellence as a teacher, publication adviser and speaker," said Edmund Sullivan, direc-

tor of the Columbia Scholastic Press Association at Columbia University.

Under Doyle's advisement, the Charlotte Catholic yearbook, *Signet II*, won national awards in 2002.

Last year, over 3,000 students and advisors from 476 public and private middle and high schools from 37 states and the District of Columbia attended the event.

## DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRY

**St. Leo the Great Catholic Church located in beautiful Winston-Salem** is searching for a youth minister to continue an established Life Teen program centered on the Eucharist. We are seeking an enthusiastic, passionate, faith-filled individual to direct young people toward a meaningful, life-affirming journey with Christ.

If you are a Catholic with a college degree, have a strong spiritual, faith-based background, a passion for working with youth, and at least two years of practical experience as a youth minister, please consider this opportunity.

The Life Teen Mass is every Sunday at 5PM during the school year. Our awesome Life Teen band leads Praise and Worship songs, many original. We have a dedicated Core Team made up of singles and couples and a committed group of parent volunteers. Most important, however, are the 150 (and growing) young people who participate in our Spirit Night (Jr. Youth), Life Night (Sr. Youth), other activities and retreats. Also, recent additions to the Family Life Center feature a room dedicated to its youth, a Youth Minister's office, kitchenette and entertainment center.

The starting salary is competitive and negotiable depending on education and/or experience. Attractive benefit package, too. Please contact Jerry Felten, Director of Parish Operations, St. Leo the Great Catholic Church, 335 Springdale Avenue, Winston-Salem, N.C. 27104.

Phone: 336-724-0561. Fax: 336-724-7036.

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## Principal - The Franciscan School

The Catholic Community of St. Francis of Assisi, Raleigh, NC, has an exciting opportunity for an energetic visionary to principal its K-8 parochial school. The Franciscan School, founded in August of 2000, is a state of the art educational facility possessing a strong and diverse faculty and a current enrollment of 550. Applicants must be practicing Catholics possessing a master's degree, preferably in educational administration or curriculum, and instruction. The successful candidate will have demonstrated a minimum of five years' experience in instructional leadership, school management and human resources and have or be capable of obtaining a NC Principal's Certificate. Additionally, a commitment to community involvement and service is essential. The principal of The Franciscan School must be a caring and compassionate educator, enthusiastic and capable of collaboration with parents, faculty and a large parish staff. The start date is July 1, 2003.

We offer a comprehensive benefits package which includes medical, dental, life insurance, pension, paid vacation and holidays. Salary is commensurate with education and experience. Interested candidates should send their resume, a statement of educational philosophy and a listing of three references, by April 30, to: Principal Search Committee, 11401 Leesville Road, Raleigh, NC 27613. Material may also be faxed to (919) 870-1790 or sent via e-mail to [joan@stfrancisraleigh.org](mailto:joan@stfrancisraleigh.org).

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## COUNCILS, from page 1

at St. John's Seminary in Camarillo, Calif., has been involved with parish and diocesan councils for over 20 years. He has written 50-plus articles on the subject and has authored "Pastoral Councils in Today's Catholic Parish," considered the most complete study of councils published.

"Wise leaders consult their wise followers, wise people consult with other wise people — they seek the wisdom of those who are knowledgeable. That goes back to ancient times," said Fischer. "I told the pastors having a pastoral council isn't a management trick to win people over, but rather should be motivated by a sincere desire to know the people so you can serve them better."

There were three main topics about which Fischer spoke in the two six-hour workshops.

"The first was the church's vision of consultation; in other words, why the church feels that pastors are to consult with their people," he said. "The second topic was the task of pastoral councils. The final thing ... was the spirituality of the priest who consults the pastoral council."

When a pastor consults a pastoral council, "he is expressing the appropriate spirituality of a pastor today," said Fischer, "a spirituality of a pastor that has its root in classical antiquity and the Gospels and is appropriate in our contemporary situation."

Fischer said it was the kind of spirituality that related to Jesus, who went out "to seek the people and know about the people and be with the people so he can love them more and serve them more effectively."

"The pastoral council helps the priest in that role," said Father David Brzoska, pastor of St. Andrew the Apostle Church in Mars Hill.

There's also a kind of knowledge that only comes from consulting with others, said Fisher.

"The greatest expert in the world can't tell you how to preach to your people, because that expert doesn't know what your people need," he said. "The greatest liturgist in the world can give you ideas about the liturgy in general, but can't tell you what will speak to your community. The greatest catechist in the world can tell you about catechism in general, but can't tell you what particular issues face your church."

"All of these things fall into the category of practical wisdom, and I think that's what pastoral councils offer pastors — knowledge of the community and its situation," said Fischer.

"A pastoral council helps you zero in on your particular parish's needs," said Benedictine Father David Draim, parochial vicar of St. James Church in Hamlet. "I can see how certain issues are worthy of that kind of consultation."

Fischer said many books indicate "pastoral councils are lay leadership training groups or models of community or agents of spiritual renewal." But the church defines the role of pastoral councils as something that "investigates pastoral matters, considers and ponders them, and reaches conclusions and recommends them to the pastor."

"Depending on how those things come about may be different from pastoral council to pastoral council," said Father Brzoska. "It's important to find a model that's most effective for each particular parish and council."

"What you have to have is what's beneficial to your priest, your pastoral council, your parish," said Father Draim.

The priests in attendance seemed enthusiastic about his presentations.

"I think I presented very well the church's rationale for pastoral councils," he said.

For more information on pastoral councils and training, call George Cobb, director of Planning, at (704) 370-3328, or go online at [www.charlottediocese.org/parish.html](http://www.charlottediocese.org/parish.html).

### The church on pastoral councils

*The Decree on the Apostolate of the Laity*

In diocese, as far as possible, councils should be set up to assist the Church's apostolic work ... These councils can take care of the mutual coordinating of the various lay associations and undertakings, the autonomy and particular nature of each remaining untouched. Such councils should be found too, if possible, at parochial, interparochial, interdiocesan level, and also on the national and international plane. (Apostolicam Actuositatem, No. 26)

*Decree on the Bishops' Pastoral Office in the Church*

These councils "... will be to inves-

tigate and to weigh matters which bear on pastoral activity, and to formulate practical conclusions regarding them." (Christus Dominus, (Decree on the Pastoral Office of Bishops in the Church), No. 27)

Since the Second Vatican Council concluded, both Popes Paul VI and John Paul II have continued to encourage the creation of pastoral councils. In 1987, at the World Synod of Bishops, Pope John Paul II described the role of pastoral council as a way of fostering lay participation in diocesan projects:

The Diocese of Charlotte has required the development of pastoral councils in each parish since the Diocesan Synod of 1987.

## In our increasingly interconnected world,

### Can we ignore even one child?

Within the next eight years, Africa will be home to over 30 million AIDS orphans. Without greater intervention from the world's developed nations, these children will grow up without a home, without hope and without a productive future. As Catholics, the Gospel calls us to respond.

Catholic Relief Services believes that a crisis of this dimension warrants a high level of commitment from the United States. Through the advocacy campaign *Africa Rising, Hope and Healing*, we ask you to join CRS in urging your members of Congress to be generous in their response to the call of Africa.

Put your faith into action on behalf of the children of Africa. Contact your Catholic Relief Services Diocesan Director, or Catholic Relief Services, to find out how you can make a difference.

Please call Charlotte Diocesan Director  
Joseph Purello at 704-370-3225.



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# Franciscan nun harvests St. Peter's fish to end hunger

By STEVE PARADIS  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

DADE CITY, Fla. — The same fish species harvested by the apostle Peter can help the modern world end global hunger as we know it.

That's how Franciscan Sister Kathleen Keck describes the dream of Morning Star Fishermen, which seeks to alleviate the world's worst perennial problem through aquaculture.

The fish of choice is the resilient tilapia. On the site of a former hatchery, Sister Keck and the others cultivate the tilapia and teach students about aquaculture for raising fish and hydroponics for growing plants in water instead of soil.

The goal is to establish teaching hatcheries in the Third World regions. People would learn the techniques there and take that knowledge back to their communities.

At Morning Star the hatchery pools resemble gallons of thick pea soup. Signs made by students tell how many fish should be in the opaque pools, which churn with fish when Sister Keck throws in a handful of supplemental food pellets.

The only thing that affects tilapia is temperature, explained Hans Geissler, who founded Morning Star Fishermen with his wife, Sigrid. The fish thrive only in water at or above 72 degrees Fahrenheit, so more temperate zones may require greenhouses to hold the tanks.

Native to Africa and the Nile River, the fish can tolerate low oxygen and high ammonia levels, warm temperatures and high particle content. They can survive in fresh, brackish and salt water.

The fish have tiny filters on their gills that pick out microalgae, Geissler explained. Tilapia can be cultured in almost any kind of tank, pond or narrow channel.

Volunteer Barry Lemke tells visitors that the tilapia at Morning Star have a 99 percent birth rate. The mothers hold up to 10,000 eggs in their mouths for 12 to 14 days.

Water for the facility flows through a pipe into the tanks, Lemke explained, then the nutrient-rich water from the tanks is pumped out to nourish growing vegetables. Some pools also have floating planters.

The training center in Dade City sits on an 11-acre site about 50 miles north of Tampa. Facilities include a two-story dormitory that houses 16 people. The main hatchery is 200 feet long by 57 feet wide, and the entire center can hold 180,000 gallons of water, enough for 150,000 pounds of fish per year, according to Dick Turosh,

mission director.

With food supplements, the tilapia are full grown in six to nine months, he said, so communities can harvest nutritious food or have a commodity to sell in less than a year.

Sister Keck wants parishes and dioceses who have adopted Third World counterparts to know about the potential Morning Star Fishermen offers.

"How I wish I had this knowledge when I was in Bolivia," she said of her 23 years of missionary work there. "I

want to spread this good news as far as I can as quickly as is possible."

The nonprofit ministry needs electricians and materials, especially lumber, according to Sister Keck. Volunteers and students are also needed to help conduct research. Of course, there is also a great need for funding.

Geissler's former trade will help. He was a master builder of catamaran boats; he has built more than 2,000 of them. Now another builder is using his molds to produce the

crafts. Proceeds from the sales of the catamarans will be used for the ministry.

As more people find out about Morning Star, the interest in it grows. A university group visited in January, a biology professor plans to bring students from his classes, and a local community college has a regular meeting at the center.

Parents and students from the Academy of the Holy Names High School in Tampa have invited Geissler to accompany them to the Dominican Republic to see what can be done there. He also was heading to Fond Parisien, Haiti, for a fact-finding trip sponsored by the Christian Television Network. Plans call for opening an aquaculture training center there.

"We want to open the training facility for the whole Caribbean region," Geissler told The Florida Catholic diocesan newspaper. "That's my dream."

Behind him in the office at Morning Star is a large poster with Simon Peter in a boat. It quotes Scripture: "Then Jesus said to Simon, 'Do not be afraid. From now on you will be fishers of men.'"

"We need to let our light shine, that's what Jesus said," Geissler, 62, said. "God is the one. Lord, more of you, less of me. That's my daily prayer."

He was wealthy when he was a boat builder, he said, his work clothes dirty from fixing a broken pipe, but "I'm richer now."

*Editor's Note: For more information on Morning Star Fishermen, readers may call: (352) 567-6049, or visit the Web site at: <http://www.morningstarfishermen.org>.*



Franciscan Sister Kathleen Keck

## SHOULDERING GOD'S LOVE



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

Chuck Johnson (left) and an unidentified man display his cross outside a restaurant on Wilkinson Blvd. April 3. Johnson, nicknamed "Cross-Carrying Chuck," has walked across the United States seven times over the past 17 years in order to "let people know that they need God in their lives."

## Traveler carries God's message

By KAREN A. EVANS  
STAFF WRITER

CHARLOTTE — Drivers along Wilkinson Boulevard were treated to an unusual site April 3.

Walking down the road was a man with shaggy blond hair, carrying a large backpack and a 10-foot-long wheeled cross on his shoulder.

Chuck Johnson, 41, began carrying the cross, literally, 17 years ago. With only \$55 to his name, he spent more than \$53 to build a wooden cross.

Since 1986, he has crossed the United States seven times. This most recent journey began three-and-a-half years ago in Tijuana, Mex.

"I do this to remind people that you need God in your life," he said.

For many years, he carried a wooded cross that weighed about 100 pounds. He now uses a 26-pound plastic cross on wheels.

He has walked more than 80,000 miles, living on "what God provides" through donations from the people he meets along his journey. Many people stop and ask him to pray with them, and he gladly accepts.

"I'm getting older, but people still

need the message," Johnson said.

He has no home, the closest being an aunt and uncle's home in his native Minnesota. He has no address, no cell phone — nothing but the clothes he is wearing, the contents of his backpack, a 26-pound cross and his love of God.

"My home is where the cross is," said Johnson.

A young man approached Johnson in Charlotte and asked him about his journey. He was curious and spoke of his own love for God. He asked Johnson to come out to his car to meet his wife.

Johnson agreed, and went out to meet her. The two men stood at the driver's side door, holding hands with the woman through the open window while they prayed together.

Johnson spoke repeatedly of God's providing for our needs and the importance of knowing that God loves us.

Then he picked up his backpack and cross and continued on his way, heading north to New England "before it gets too cold."

Contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans by calling (704) 370-3354 or e-mail [kaevans@charlottediocese.org](mailto:kaevans@charlottediocese.org).

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If then you were raised with Christ, seek what is above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. Think of what is above, not of what is on earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ your life appears, then you too will appear with him in glory.

Colossians 3:1-4

# The Catholic

## NEWS & HERALD

Easter coverage  
around the  
diocese

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APRIL 18, 2003

SERVING CATHOLICS IN WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA IN THE DIOCESE OF CHARLOTTE

VOLUME 12 NO 30

## From tragedy to triumph

*Concert organized  
to benefit injured  
paramedic*

By KEVIN E. MURRAY  
ACTING EDITOR

CHARLOTTE — They say bad things happen to good people. But, sometimes, those tragedies can become positive, life-changing experiences.

On May 3, John Michael Talbot, considered by many to be Catholic music's premiere recording artist, will perform a benefit concert in Charlotte for Mecklenburg County paramedic Tim Hayes.

Hayes, a 32-year-old father of four, was seriously injured during the Jan. 23 snowstorm when a tractor-trailer skidded into a crash scene on icy Interstate 77, where Hayes was assisting others. His legs were severed in the crash that pinned him against a guardrail.

After spending a month in Carolinas Medical Center, Hayes, who is now confined to a wheelchair, was sent home to be with his wife, Susan, and his children, Corissa, Leslie, Timothy and Caitlin.

Numerous fundraisers have been held around Charlotte to support the Tim Hayes Fund, established to aid Hayes and his family in his recovery. The Charlotte Knights April 6 home game against the Richmond Braves was Tim Hayes Day — one dollar from each ticket purchased went toward the fund. Almost \$400,000 had been raised so far.

Talbot, who has more than 40 albums, 14 books and numerous videos teaching minis-

See TRIUMPH, page 6

## Faithful gather for chrism Mass



PHOTOS BY KEVIN E. MURRAY,  
KAREN A. EVANS



Bishop William G. Curlin, bishop emeritus, presided over the chrism Mass at St. Patrick Cathedral April 15, in which the oils used throughout the diocese are blessed and priests rededicate themselves to their mission as spiritual leaders.

## Priests recommit to ministry, oils consecrated for diocese

By KEVIN E. MURRAY  
ACTING EDITOR

CHARLOTTE — Bishop William G. Curlin, bishop emeritus, presided over a chrism Mass in St. Patrick Cathedral April 15.

One of the Catholic Church's most solemn Masses, the chrism Mass' purpose is to bless oils used in sacramental and liturgical practices

throughout the diocese in the upcoming year. Moreover, during the recommitment ceremony, the attending priests rededicate themselves to their mission in life as spiritual advisors and leaders within their parishes and the diocese.

Bishop Curlin, along with concelebrants Abbot Placid Solari, OSB, abbot of Belmont Abbey; Abbot Patrick Shelton,

OSB, pastor of St. James Church in Hamlet; and other clergy of the diocese, gathered with about 100 priests and many permanent deacons who minister in the Diocese of Charlotte to celebrate the liturgy with the people of faith they serve.

"To be a priest is a won-

See CHRISM, page 4

## Welcoming the newcomer

*Many gather  
for CLINIC on  
immigration law*

By JOANITA M.  
NELLENBACH  
CORRESPONDENT

ASHEVILLE — Like other parishes in the Diocese of Charlotte, Sacred Heart in Brevard is reaching out to Hispanic immigrants.

There were immigration questions the volunteers didn't feel qualified to answer, however, so several signed up for "Immigration Law Training on Advanced Naturalization and Grounds of Inadmissibility/Waivers," sponsored by Catholic Legal Immigration Network Inc. (CLINIC) and the Diocese of Charlotte's Western Regional Office of Catholic Social Services (WROCSS).

"We're starting a Mexican ministry at the church," Sacred Heart parishioner Tom Fortener said. "We heard we had a lot of illegal immigrants in our area. At least this will give us an idea of what we have to do to help them become legal. This will help us know what programs we need. We don't have to just say, 'Oh, I'm sorry, there's nothing we can do.'"

Fortener was among 51 attendees at the workshop presented by CLINIC attorneys Peggy Gleason and Caitlin Brazill of Washington, D.C., at the Basilica of St. Lawrence March 26-27.

Attorneys, preschool teachers, community volun-

See CLINIC, page 14

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Labyrinth offers old twist to  
prayer

...PAGE 5

Making strides to  
protect children

...PAGE 6

Students get cultural at  
school fair

...PAGE 7



### Prayer key for families of rescued POWs, says Texas pastor

EL PASO, Texas (CNS) — On the day of the release of seven U.S. prisoners of war in Iraq, the pastor of Christ the Savior Parish in El Paso said prayer was key for the families of the POWs. Father Bob Kolbe knows this firsthand because two of his parishioners, Claude and Eunice Johnson, are the parents of one of those soldiers, 30-year-old Army Spec. Shoshana Johnson. After Shoshana Johnson and other members of her unit were taken captive March 23, just days after the Iraqi war began, Father Kolbe spoke to Eunice Johnson and assured her that her daughter would be found and freed along with the other POWs, who included two helicopter pilots. "She believed this," he said, adding that "her deep faith" strengthened her in this ordeal.

### Couples say natural family planning brings happier, holier marriages

SYRACUSE, N.Y. (CNS) — If couples want to strengthen their marriages in these days of a record divorce rate, Carol and Dave Armitage recommend they consider natural family planning. The Armitages, supporters of the method and the Couple to Couple League organization that teaches it, and others in the Syracuse Diocese say choosing natural family planning can be the best decision for any couple looking for mutual respect and better communication and to open themselves to God's love. The Armitages said they began using artificial contraception after having their first son in 1977 and conceiving again three months later. The Armitages said natural family planning, known as NFP, changed their lives. NFP allows both husband and wife to be equal partners in family planning. NFP is 99 percent effective in avoiding pregnancy and follows Catholic teaching by using no artificial contraception.

### Students learn why they are 'worth waiting for' in abstinence program

CLARKSVILLE, Tenn. (CNS) — They are the homecoming queen, the cheerleader, the soccer player. They are



CNS PHOTO FROM U.S. NAVY VIA REUTERS

**U.S. Marine talks with Iraqi girl at food distribution point**  
U.S. Marine Corps Maj. Chris Hughes talks to an Iraqi girl April 8 at a food and water distribution point near An Najaf, south of Baghdad. The military was working with international relief groups to provide food and medicine for civilians in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

involved in student government and on the staff of the student newspaper. They are outspoken about many topics, including their decision to abstain from sex until marriage. They are members of a local club called "Worth Waiting For" and believe that sex is "worth waiting for" until marriage. With the help of Catholic Charities of Tennessee, the message of sexual abstinence is reaching some public schools in the state. In the Nashville Diocese, Nancy Salyer of Catholic Charities in Clarksville and other educators have helped implement the Worth Waiting For curriculum in public schools in Montgomery, Cheatham and Robertson counties. Worth Waiting For is an abstinence education program funded by a grant awarded to the three-county area by the Tennessee Department of Health and presented to students, with their parents' permission, in sixth grade through high school in 14 schools. The classes are held for about an hour a day for four to five days.

### Canadians hand over World Youth Day cross to Germans at Vatican

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Representatives of Canadian young people handed the World Youth Day cross to their German peers with pride, but also sadness. Before the cross was passed on April 13 at the end of Palm Sunday Mass in St. Peter's Square, Pope John Paul II told the Canadians that in contemplating the cross during its pilgrimage across their country "you discovered God's love for you." The pilgrimage, he said, "brought many people to a powerful experience of God's love. May the spirit of Toronto remain always alive in your hearts and bear abundant fruit in your lives." After they gave the cross to their German peers, the Canadian young people had tears running down their cheeks. Some raised their hands in blessing toward the cross and the Germans; others had their hands folded and heads bowed in prayer. The Canadian

delegation met privately with the pope April 12 and prepared to hand over the cross by keeping it company with their prayers as it sat waiting in the Church of San Lorenzo near St. Peter's Square.

### Pope prays for peace while celebrating Christ's entry to Jerusalem

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Celebrating the entry of Christ, king of peace, into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, it is impossible not to pray for peace in the city that continues to be marked by violence, Pope John Paul II said. "And how can we not express fraternal solidarity with your peers tried by war and violence in Iraq, in the Holy Land and in various other parts of the world?" the pope asked young people gathered in St. Peter's Square for the April 13 Mass. The Mass marked not only Palm Sunday, but also World Youth Day. At the end of the Mass, young people from Canada, hosts of World Youth Day 2002, passed the World Youth Day cross to young people from Germany, which will host the international gathering of youths with the pope in Cologne in 2005.

### Pope says work for peace must begin with prayer, love, moral living

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Work for lasting peace in the world must begin with individual prayers, moral living, a sincere love for others and a commitment to justice, Pope John Paul II told university students meeting in Rome. "True peace blossoms when in one's heart hatred, rancor and jealousy are defeated; when one says 'no' to selfishness and to everything that pushes the human being to turn in on himself and to defend his own advantage," the pope told the students. The 2,500 young people from around the world who met the pope April 14 at the Vatican were participating in the annual UNIV Congress sponsored by the personal prelature of Opus Dei. The 2003 congress focused on making peace in the 21st century. The pope said the theme was especially important as tensions continue in Iraq and as wars and violence rage in many other parts of the world. "It all makes a true education in peace more urgent," he said.

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## Diocesan planner

### UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

#### April

**24 HUNTERSVILLE** — Catholic Social Services Elder Ministry will host its 17th Annual Spring Fling today at St. Mark Church, 14740 Stumptown Rd., 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Come join seniors from throughout the diocese for a day filled with music, games, bingo, crafts, door prizes, lunch, Mass and more. Registration deadline is Monday, April 14. For more information, call Sandra Breakfield at (704) 370-3220.

**24 GREENSBORO** — A Cursillistas Women's Weekend will be held April 24-26 at St. Paul the Apostle. Remember palanca for our teams and candidates. Please visit our new Cursillo website: [www.charlottecursillo.org](http://www.charlottecursillo.org). To receive Cursillo information via e-mail, contact [bmayer@alltell.net](mailto:bmayer@alltell.net). Questions, call Dan Hines at (704)

544-6665.

**25 KERNERSVILLE** — The Holy Cross Columbiettes are hosting the Fourth Annual N.C. State Columbiette Convention at the Dudley Inn and Conference Center tonight and Saturday. All Columbiettes and third-degree Knights of Columbus are invited to attend. Welcome reception begins at 7:30 p.m. Friday evening. Saturday's activities include major degree ceremonies, memorial services, business meetings, Mass and dinner. Please contact Sharon Ladd or Maureen Hueglin at (336) 996-0262 for registration information.

**25 HICKORY** — A Rachel's Vineyard weekend retreat for spiritual and emotional healing after abortion will be held at the Catholic Conference Center on two weekends, April 25-27 or May 2-4. The retreats are co-sponsored by the Respect Life Office of the Diocese of Charlotte. For more information, contact Dr. Martha Shuping at (336) 659-1342 or [mshuping01@sprynet.com](mailto:mshuping01@sprynet.com). The Rachel's Vineyard web address is

[www.rachelsvineyard.org](http://www.rachelsvineyard.org) and toll-free 24-hour line is 1-877-HOPE-4-ME.

**26 SALISBURY** — School of Leaders will meet at Sacred Heart Church today 9-11:30 a.m., following the 8 a.m. Mass. For more information, call Dan Hines at (704) 544-6665 or visit [www.charlottecursillo.org](http://www.charlottecursillo.org). To receive Cursillo information via e-mail contact [bmayer@alltell.net](mailto:bmayer@alltell.net).

**27 CHARLOTTE** — St. Thomas Aquinas Church, 1400 Suther Rd., will celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday with a Holy Hour at 3 p.m., including Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament and recitation of the Divine Mercy Chaplet. For details, call Gail Abraham at (704) 786-0709.

**27 HENDERSONVILLE** — The St. Francis of the Hills Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order will meet today 3 to 5 p.m. at Immaculate Conception Church, 208 7th Ave. West. Visitors and inquirers are welcome, so for more information, call Helen Gillogly, SFO, at (828) 883-9645.

**27 CLEMMONS** — The Eucharistic



**Vatican official says no one should link violent acts to God's name**

ROME (CNS) — No matter the outcome, no one who uses violence can claim to be acting in the name of God, said Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger. The cardinal, prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, said claiming to act in the name of God when waging war is a violation of the Second Commandment, "Thou shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain." Cardinal Ratzinger made his comments in an interview published in the April edition of the Italian Catholic magazine 30 Giorni (30 Days). Invoking God or Allah in connection with the Iraqi war "seems sad to me," he said. "It is an abuse of the name of God. Neither of the two sides can affirm they are doing what they are doing in God's name."

**Archbishop: Iraqi war causes more radicalism in southern Philippines**

MANILA, Philippines (CNS) — The war in Iraq has further "radicalized" separatists in the southern Philippines, including Muslim youths who may decide to join or even start terrorist groups, said a Philippine archbishop. Archbishop Orlando Quevedo of Cotabato said the increase in "terrorist acts" on Mindanao Island reflects this radicalization of "fringe elements of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front as well as some Muslim youth." The archbishop, president of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines, supplied written comments to UCA News, an Asian church news agency based in Thailand, from his home on Mindanao Island, in southern Philippines. Bomb attacks in Davao City killed at least 38 people in March and early April and injured some 200. The night after the April 2 daytime explosion on the city's Sasa Wharf, three mosques were damaged by grenades and gunfire. In October 2002, several explosions hit Zamboanga City; 18 people were killed.

**From Kosciusko to Chin, immigrants have history in the U.S. military**

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Polish General Thaddeus Kosciusko and



CNS PHOTO BY DEBBIE HILL

**Nuns wave palm fronds following path of Christ's entry to Jerusalem**

Nuns waves palm fronds April 13 on Palm Sunday as they follow the traditional route that Jesus took from the Mount of Olives into Jerusalem. At the Vatican, Pope John Paul II again prayed for peace in the Holy Land and in Iraq.

Burma-born Marine Cpl. Edward Chin were born three centuries and half a world apart, but they share a common legacy as immigrants in the U.S. military. Kosciusko was a Polish military engineer who served seven years in the Revolutionary War Army and became known for successfully defending West Point in New York and blocking the British from advancing across the Hudson River. Chin, whose parents left Burma for New York within a week of his birth, is the 23-year-old who was seen live on television around the world April 9 as he climbed a statue of Saddam Hussein in Baghdad and briefly draped an American flag across the face. In addition to Chin, immigrants in the U.S. military have been making headlines as their names appeared on the rolls of those killed, captured or missing in action. As Polish-Americans living in cities

such as Hartford, Conn., know from annual Kosciusko Day observances, there is a long tradition of immigrants serving in the U.S. armed services.

**Cuban, U.S. bishops work to build bridges among exiles and homeland**

WASHINGTON (CNS) — For the Cuban bishops, a key part of national reconciliation is bridge-building to Cubans abroad, especially those in the United States estranged from their native land because of opposition to the 44-year-old regime of Fidel Castro. Helping build these bridges is also a priority for U.S. bishops, especially in southern Florida, where most of the 1.2 million people of Cuban descent in the United States live. Religion is an important tool but political differences remain an obstacle, said Cuban-born Auxil-

iary Bishop Augustin A. Roman of Miami in a telephone interview. "Not all exiles think the same. All are for freedom in Cuba but they do not see this in the same way," said Bishop Roman. The bishop said many Cubans who left in the early years after Castro's 1959 revolution still want his overthrow while younger generations are more open to peaceful transformation in line with church views on reconciliation.

**Catholic officials pleased with Senate passage of faith-based bill**

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Catholic officials are endorsing legislation, passed overwhelmingly by the Senate April 9, that aims to help charity organizations provide social services. The legislation — Charity Aid, Recovery and Empowerment Act of 2003, or CARE Act — will provide tax breaks to corporations and to individuals who do not currently itemize on their taxes for giving charitable donations. It will also give technical assistance to faith-based and community groups that want to offer social services, restore \$1.3 billion in funding for the Social Services Block Grant, and authorize \$33 million to establish group maternity homes for young mothers. The legislation, approved in a 95-5 vote, does not contain some of the bill's initial language that would have clarified that religious groups providing social services cannot be excluded from government contracts just for having a religious name or displaying religious symbols.

The next issue of *The Catholic News & Herald* will be published May 2.

The staff of your diocesan newspaper wish a blessed Easter to all our readers in the 46-county Diocese of Charlotte.

Apostles of the Divine Mercy present the Feast of Divine Mercy at Holy Family Church, 4820 Kinnamon Rd., today beginning with Eucharistic Adoration at 2:30 p.m. and concluding with Mass of the Divine Mercy at 5 p.m. For details, please visit [www.holyfamilyclermmons.com](http://www.holyfamilyclermmons.com).

**27 CHARLOTTE** — A charismatic Mass will be held at St. Patrick Cathedral, 1621 Dilworth Rd. East, this afternoon at 4 p.m. with prayer teams at 3 p.m. and a potluck dinner at 5 p.m. in the school cafeteria. For further information, contact Susan Lew at (704) 849-0214.

**28 NEWTON** — The Little Flowers Catholic Girls' Group is for all Catholic girls ages five and up. The group will be meeting at St. Joseph Church, 720 West 13th St., at 4 p.m. in the Holy Family Hall. For more details, call Debbie Vickers at (828) 495-2039.

**May**

**1 WINSTON-SALEM** — The Healing Companions is a grief support group for the bereaved. They will be meeting tonight and May 15 in conference room B

at St. Leo the Great Church, 335 Springdale Ave. For further details, call Joanne Parcel at (336) 924-9478.

**1 HICKORY** — St. Aloysius Church, 921 Second St. NE, will hold a Charismatic Mass today in Sebastian Chapel at 7 p.m. A Charismatic Mass will be held the first Thursday every of each month. For further information, contact Joan Moran (828)-327-0487.

**1 GUILFORD COUNTY** — Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, Guilford County, Division 1, an Irish-Catholic social, cultural and charitable inter-parish group, will meet tonight at 7:30 p.m. St. Pius X Church, Kloster Center, at N. Elm St. and Cornwallis Dr. in Greensboro. RSVP to Elaine McHale, President, 292-1118 to attend meeting. All Catholic women of Irish birth or descent are welcome.

**2 CHARLOTTE** — St. Peter Church, 507 S. Tryon St., will offer Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on the first Friday of every month following the 12:10 p.m. Mass and Benediction at 1:30 p.m.

**2 HICKORY** — Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend will take place today through Sunday at the Catholic Conference Center. For information or to register, call Tom & Emilie Sandin at (336) 274-4424.

**3 SYLVA** — St. Mary Church offers Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament the first Saturday of every month following the 9 a.m. Mass until 3 p.m. For information, call (828) 586-9496.

**3 GREENSBORO** — Bridges for Women will meet today at St. Paul the Apostle Church, 2715 Horse Pen Creek Rd. The program, "I like being Catholic," begins at 9 a.m. with Mass and the Rosary, followed by fellowship, breakfast and conversation. Newcomers are always welcome. For details, contact Sue Perez 643-6199 or e-mail [WPerez4@aol.com](mailto:WPerez4@aol.com).

**3 CHARLOTTE** — Internationally acclaimed Catholic musician John Michael Talbot will perform a benefit concert at UNC-Charlotte's Halton Arena at 7 p.m. tonight. Net proceeds from the concert

will be given to the Tim Hayes Fund. Hayes, a Charlotte paramedic, lost both of his legs in an accident while responding to a previous accident during the January 23 snowstorm. For tickets, call (866) 698-4253 or visit [www.ticketreturn.com](http://www.ticketreturn.com).

**4 ASHEVILLE** — The Western Regional Office of Catholic Social Services will host an afternoon tea 2-4 p.m. today on the lawn and Victorian veranda of CSS, 50 Orange St. Enjoy high tea and the ambiance of the historic home that houses the Western Regional Office of CSS. Proceeds will benefit CSS programs throughout western North Carolina. Tickets are available at door. For more details, Sr. Marie Frechette at (828) 255-0146.

**4 BOONE** — Dr. Kurt Michael will lead a discussion on the challenges and triumphs of parenting in the 21st century. The session will be held today at 9:30 a.m. in the Emmaus Room of St. Elizabeth Church, 259 Pilgrim's Way. For details, please call (828) 264-8338.



# In the language of friendship

*French students visit St. Ann School*

By MARY MARSHALL

CORRESPONDENT

CHARLOTTE — Sixteen high school juniors from Lycée Auguste Renoir in Limoge, France tapped rhythm sticks together, on the floor and above their heads as they joined Harry Booth's third grade music class at St. Ann School April 8.

The students, guests of Independence High School's French classes, spent two weeks in Charlotte where they participated in high school classes and visited sites around Charlotte, including Discovery Place, government offices, Lowe's Motor Speedway, Latta Plantation and the Catawba Reservation.

Monique Bordas and Serge Delrous, English teachers at Lycée Auguste Renoir, accompanied the students. Through the relationship with the high school French classes, a group of French juniors visits Charlotte every other year. This is Delrous' sixth visit to the Queen City.

In a quest to learn about Catholic schools, the group — who spoke English well — visited St. Ann School. Five years ago, St. Ann sent a delegation of 25 students, teachers and parents to visit Limoge, one of Charlotte's sister cities.

Designated fifth-graders escorted the French students in small groups around the school. The visitors described the St. Ann students as "very well disciplined" and "really nice." They also were surprised at the small class sizes in the Catholic elementary school.

"St. Ann School is knit together well; in France, we are more individualized," said Delrous. "We're amazed at the number of parent volunteers. Also, we're seeing a great deal of patriotism."

"There is a multicultural flavor here. We're seeing specialized teachers at the elementary level, which is limited to the upper grades in France," he said. "We're amazed at the number of computers at the elementary level."

"In the U.S., we emphasize flexibility," said Sister of St. Joseph Helene Nagle, principal of St. Ann School.

St. Ann students were equally cu-



PHOTO BY MARY MARSHALL

France's Lycee Auguste Renoir students play rhythm sticks with Harry Booth's third-grade music class during a visit to St. Ann School in Charlotte April 8.

rious about the visitors from overseas. They asked about the size of their school, what subjects were studied, what sports were played. A few students even exchanged e-mail addresses.

"There is a big sense of community within the school," said Delrous. "It's a very welcoming atmosphere. We're enjoying all the group activities."

Those activities included joining students in singing "Home on the Range" and playing rhythm sticks in Booth's class. They were also introduced to the kazoo, as Booth handed one out to each student.

When a visit to Holy Trinity Middle School was cancelled, Sister Helene called all students to the gymnasium for an assembly and basketball game between the French students and the fifth-graders.

There, the transitional kindergarteners recited an Easter poem, complete with hand gestures. Third- and fourth-graders sang a

French Christmas song. Students joined together to sing the world peace song, "It's a Small World." Then the students sang both the American and French national anthems.

Soon cheers rang out as the basketball game began, followed by a buffet lunch for the French and St. Ann students, who tugged at the visitors' sleeves, begging them to sit at their tables.

The St. Ann students prayed before and after lunch. The French students said that could never be done in French schools.

St. Ann student Christine Doolan said she cherishes a gift given to her by a French student — a drawing of a woman praying, which was sketched during lunch.

Before leaving, Delrous told St. Ann students, "When we return to France, our visit here at St. Ann is what we will be talking about."

On May 2, St. Ann will host a delegation of students from Germany.

## CHRISM, from page 1

derful thing," said Bishop Curlin to the cathedral packed with clergy and lay people, many standing in the side aisles.

"When you (priests) say 'This is my body, this is my blood,' Heaven comes down on earth," said the bishop. "This is Jesus — the Jesus who raised Lazarus, who cured blind people and cured those with leprosy, who died on that cross — in our hands. Through human hands, into the body comes the living Christ."

Bishop Curlin encouraged the priests to be holy priests and to be saints in the eyes of those they serve. He encouraged them not be discouraged by hardships.

"What makes us happy and not give up?" he asked. "You keep your eyes on Jesus — that is the secret of a happy priesthood. No matter what the world does or what you have to go through, you keep your eyes on Jesus. Make sure Christ is always in your heart."

To the laity, Bishop Curlin said, "We priests are sanctified because of you. In giving you God's love, we are healed of our weaknesses. In preaching God's word to you, we preach to our hearts to be transformed by his words."

Later in the Mass, Bishop Curlin blessed the three different oils used in sacramental and liturgical practices for all of the faithful throughout the year.

The oil of the sick, used to anoint the ill and dying, was blessed first. Next came the blessing of the oil of catechumens, which is used during the rite of baptism. The consecration of the sacred chrism — a duty that belongs to the bishop alone — took place near the close of the Mass. Chrism — perfumed with balsam, an aromatic oil derived from trees — is an oil of consecration used after baptisms and during confirmation, the ordaining of bishops and priests, and the blessing of churches and altars.

Vials of the oils are dispersed to every parish and mission church in the diocese. With the sacred oils — and having recommitted themselves in the ministry they and their bishop share — the priests returned to their parishes rededicated in spiritual union with the bishop and their parishioners.

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# Labyrinth offers old twist to prayer

*Ancient prayer tool leads to God, inner peace*

By REV. MR. GERALD POTKAY  
CORRESPONDENT

GREENSBORO — Parishioners of St. Paul the Apostle Church had an opportunity to discover an ancient form of prayer — the labyrinth.

"It is a different type of praying experience that gently reminds us that we are all pilgrims on a journey to the sacred center where God is," said Jacqueline Messick, parish coordinator of the April 10 event in the parish hall.

"When traveling through the labyrinth, peace just seems to happen during those 20 or 30 or more minutes (depending on the time spent at the center)," she said.

The circular labyrinth consisted of paths that eventually led to the center — there are no dead ends. St. Paul the Apostle's labyrinth, borrowed from a Greensboro Methodist church, was a replica of one rediscovered in the Notre Dame Cathedral in Chartres, France that was built in the 1200s. It is one of several cathedrals of the Middle Ages that placed labyrinths within their entrances. While it is unknown if the Chartres Cathedral used the labyrinth as a prayer tool or decoration, labyrinths were often ways for the faithful to make spiritual journeys to Jerusalem without making the physical journeys.

There has been a recent re-emergence of the labyrinth as a prayer tool within the Christian community.



PHOTO BY REV. MR. GERALD POTKAY

Jacqueline Messick walks the labyrinth, an ancient prayer tool, at St. Paul the Apostle Church in Greensboro April 10.

"The use of a labyrinth as a tool for prayer fell into disuse for several centuries," said Messick. "However, the revival of its use resonates so well with a holistic sense of the human person. A labyrinth is a journey, a pilgrimage to God, who is the center of all things."

The labyrinth is a circle of 30-42 feet

that is divided into four quarters. These sections are interconnected so that when a traveler seems to be close to the center, an abrupt turn takes him or her on a longer meditative journey.

According to Messick, the labyrinth is divided into three stages.

The walk to the center is the first stage and meant to be spent as a time of cleansing. The traveler tries to eliminate things that separate him or her from the divine; things like anger, self-pity and prejudice must be discarded along way.

"This is accomplished through prayerful centering, which clears and

prepares one to meet God," said Messick.

The second stage is at the center, where the traveler — having been cleansed of worldly encumbrances — opens his or her heart and mind to the Holy Spirit. It may be as simple as feelings of peace and calmness or as eye opening as a sudden insight, said Messick. One must just allow the Holy Spirit to speak to the soul.

"At the center of the labyrinth is a rose consisting of six pedals," said Messick. "These can represent the six days of creation. During the Middle Ages, the rose represented the Blessed Virgin Mary."

"Yet, however one would view it, the center represents the sacred, the core of unity and wholeness between humanity and the divine that is brought about through the Holy Spirit," she said. "Here the body, mind and spirit are integrated through the Christian tradition of meditation. It is here that one meets God."

The journey out is the third stage of the labyrinth. Following the same path that brought the traveler in, he or she now moves out into the world renewed in faith to do the work of the Jesus and his church according to his or her vocation.

Parishioner Lisa Sunshine said she felt peace, wonder and even uncertainty while walking the labyrinth.

"At the center, I thought about how the journey must have been like for Jesus during the last week of Jesus' life as he traveled back to Jerusalem," said Sunshine. "I would certainly like to travel the path again in order to bring different aspects into it."

"It took a little bit getting into the reflective mode," said parishioner Margie DeAngelis. "But it was a very peaceful, calming and prayerful experience."

Contact Correspondent Rev. Mr. Gerald Potkay by calling (336) 427-8218 or e-mail [gpokay@triad.rr.com](mailto:gpokay@triad.rr.com).

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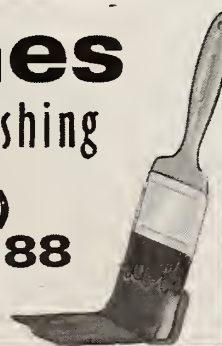
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## TRIUMPH, from page 1

try to the poor, simple living and Franciscan and monastic community living, is currently on tour performing in Catholic churches around the country.

"He's always been a favorite artist of mine," said Bob Loughlin. "He combines deep spirituality with beautiful acoustic music. To me, his music is a wonderful journey of faith. In any of his recordings, there's an encounter with the Lord."

When Loughlin, a parishioner of St. Matthew Church, heard Talbot's musical tour was taking him near Charlotte, an idea clicked.

"If we could get a wonderful Christian artist (Talbot) of this caliber, we could do two wonderful things at the same time," said Loughlin. "We could bring the beauty and spirituality of Talbot to those who normally wouldn't go into a Catholic church, and do something wonderful financially for Tim Hayes."

Loughlin contacted Talbot's people with the idea of a benefit concert the first weekend of May.

"They were rather excited," he said. "Talbot was off that weekend, but we knew Saturday was the best night, so he adjusted his tour schedule to be here for us."

Loughlin and other organizers knew a church wouldn't cut it for a benefit concert of this magnitude.

"The idea came up about UNC-C," said Loughlin. "I followed up with it. It looked like the perfect place."

The University of North Carolina at Charlotte's Halton Arena can seat 6,500 people for a concert, said Loughlin.

"So we started knocking on doors. It all picked up steam and took on a life of its own," said Loughlin. "Numerous people from the business and religious communities have helped."

But when Loughlin proposed the idea to Hayes, it made all the hard work worthwhile.

"When I met him, I was totally convinced this was the thing to do," said Loughlin. "He is the nicest, most down-to-earth person."

"I was very amazed and surprised," said Hayes, recalling his reaction to the benefit concert.

Hayes, a Protestant, said he had heard Talbot's music before, and was touched that Loughlin would put to-

gether such an event.

"He (Loughlin) is a very wonderful man who tries to do a lot for other people," said Hayes.

"The Hayes family has some real challenges ahead, but Tim's attitude is to move on and keep serving others," said Loughlin.

"You have to look on the positive side of things," said Hayes. "Things happen for a reason."

Loughlin believes he knows the reason behind Hayes' accident.

"I told Tim the Lord has allowed him to touch the hearts and minds of thousands of people," said Loughlin. "Before his accident, Tim was physically able to heal others, a few at a time. But he's been ministering and healing numerous others in a deeper way since his accident. It's one of God's little ironies."

The outpouring of support has been overwhelming. Hayes received an e-mail from a soldier 50 miles from the Iraqi border. Lincoln County emergency workers collected \$20,000 at intersections for the fund. A homeless man gave \$5.

Hayes and his partner Bobby Suarez also received the Order of the Longleaf Pine, the state's highest civilian honor. Hayes' accident has also prompted national advocates for emergency responder safety to demand changes to better protect workers at wreck scenes in and around Charlotte.

Loughlin said there was a possibility Hayes may turn his tragedy into a ministry, by going out and speaking to others. "He is a man of great faith," said Loughlin. "His story will bring hope to others who have struggles."

First, Hayes hopes to attend the Talbot concert; he still suffers from constant pain.

"You have to keep your chin up and keep your faith strong," said Hayes. "Life goes on."

Contact Acting Editor Kevin E. Murray by calling (704) 370-3334 or e-mail [kemurray@charlottediocese.org](mailto:kemurray@charlottediocese.org).

### Want to go?

The John Michael Talbot benefit concert for Tim Hayes will be held Saturday, May 3 at 7 p.m. in Dale R. Halton Arena on the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. For tickets and more information, call (704) 687-4803.

## Making strides to protect children

### Diocese of Charlotte implements new background checks

By KEVIN E. MURRAY  
ACTING EDITOR

CHARLOTTE — The Diocese of Charlotte is implementing a new background check policy for all new employees.

Effective May 1, the policy will be a revision of current procedures in compliance with the U.S. bishops' "Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People" as well as with state and federal laws requiring criminal record checks on individuals working with children.

The enhanced policy will require the "satisfactory completion" of background checks for all paid employees. Positive checks must also be completed for volunteers regularly working with children and/or vulnerable adults and in areas regularly involving finance.

The charter (Article 13) requires dioceses and eparchies to evaluate "the background of all diocesan/eparchial and parish personnel who have regular contact with children. Specifically, they will utilize the re-

sources of law enforcement and other community agencies."

State law (N.C. Gen. Stat. Sec. 114-19.3) requires criminal record checks of individuals employed by, or volunteer for, among other things, any profit or non-profit employer that provides direct care or services to children, the sick, the disabled, or the elderly.

Federal law (42 USC 13041 a, b, c) states an employer may also consider conviction that may bear upon an individual's fitness for working with children.

"No diocesan parish, agency, department or school will employ, or accept as a volunteer, any individual who refuses to consent to a background check," said Msgr. Mauricio W. West, diocesan administrator.

Under the new policy, the diocese will also check applicants for positions working with children against the Sexual Offenders Registry Index, as well as require additional background checks specifically related to certain positions.

"This new policy will improve our mission to provide a safe and productive environment for the children of the Diocese of Charlotte," said Msgr. West.

Contact Acting Editor Kevin E. Murray by calling (704) 370-3334 or e-mail [kemurray@charlottediocese.org](mailto:kemurray@charlottediocese.org).

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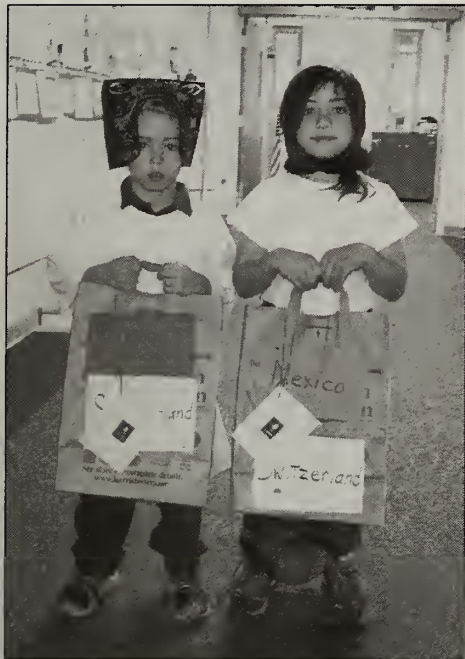
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## Your passport, please

Our Lady of Grace School first-graders Nicholas Martin and Nicol Schoen, dressed in their Egyptian clothes with their "passports" and luggage, take a multicultural tour April 11 through "Switzerland" (third grade). Below: Students learn about other countries and cultures.



PHOTO BY REV. MR. GERALD POTKAY

## Students get cultural at school fair

By REV. MR. GERALD POTKAY  
CORRESPONDENT

GREENSBORO — Our Lady of Grace School celebrated various countries with a multicultural fair for kindergarten through third-grade students April 11.

According to Assistant Principal Shirley Kinlaw, this annual event has been used as a learning tool for the

students for at least 10 years.

"It's an effort to expose the children to the different cultures of various countries," said Kinlaw.

Each grade level selected a different country for a project. This year, kindergarten chose Mexico; first grade explored Egypt; second grade studied Italy; and third grade presented Switzerland.

In March, students learned about their "country of origin" — the country their grade chose to study. Then they created posters and crafts and brought in foods from each of their respective countries.

First-grade teacher Jane McDonald, who previously taught in Saudi Arabia, was able to bring in items from the Middle East to help with her class's display.

Having created "passports" with their individual photos, names, ages and countries of origin, students "traveled" throughout the various classrooms carrying "suitcases" made from brown paper bags and decorated with symbols of their country of origin.

Upon entering each room, the students' passports were stamped and the teacher-coordinator for that room took the students on a "tour" of that particular country.

The students were enthusiastic as they asked questions and responded to questions asked of them. They put a tremendous amount of effort towards making the day informative and interesting for all.

According to Molly Farrington, second-grade teacher and "tour guide" of Italy, "It's fascinating to hear what the children learn and what they remember when they come back to my room and relate everything they saw and learned. It makes the project more than worth while."

Contact Correspondent Rev. Mr. Gerald Potkay by calling (336) 427-8218 or e-mail [gpokay@triad.rr.com](mailto:gpokay@triad.rr.com).



COURTESY PHOTO

Bishop William G. Curlin, bishop emeritus, stands with Adam Pohlman and Peter Butterfield of Boy Scout Troop 244 from St. Pius X Church in Greensboro.

## Boy Scouts win awards at Camporee

GREENSBORO — Boy Scout Troop 244 from St. Pius X Church won first place at the XXVIII Catholic Camporee at Clear Creek Scout Camp April 4-6 near Charlotte, at which Bishop William G. Curlin, bishop emeritus, celebrated a Mass.

Also at the weekend event, Adam Pohlman and Peter Butterfield of Troop 244 received their Ad Altara Dei awards.

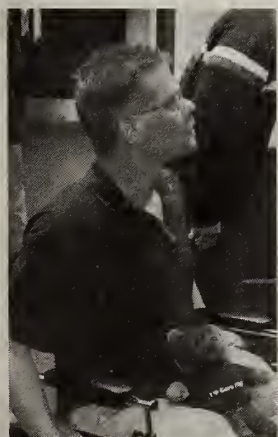
# JOHN MICHAEL TALBOT BENEFIT CONCERT

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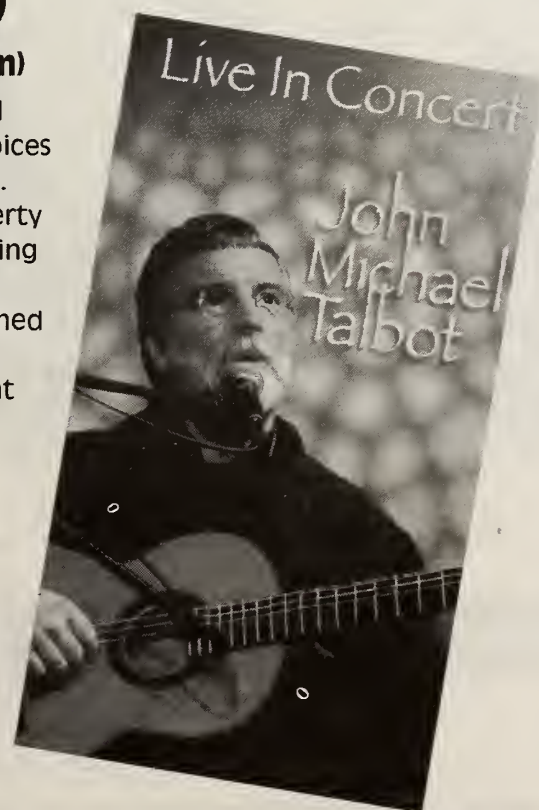
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# Catholics celebrate Palm Sunday with Seder supper

By ELLEN NEERINCX SIGMON  
CORRESPONDENT

LENOIR — Acknowledging their common biblical roots with the Jewish people, about 100 parishioners gathered at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church for a Passover Seder supper on the evening of Palm Sunday, April 13, as an opening event of Holy Week.

The church held smaller Seder suppers for its confirmation classes in previous years, but this was the first one held for the parish, said parishioner Karen Doll. The supper was modified from the traditional Jewish Seder to remember Jesus and his Passover celebration, the Last Supper, and to relate the symbolic actions of the Seder to the symbolic actions of the celebration of the Eucharist.

The Seder began with the lighting of the festival lights. Mothers at each table lit the candles as a reminder of Jesus, the light of the world. Father Matt Leonard, pastor at St. Francis of Assisi, acted as the Seder rabbi and washed the hands of each person at the head table in remembrance of Jesus washing the feet of his friends at the Last Supper.

Candle lighting and hand washing are also part of Mass.

Parishioners tasted wine, greens dipped in salt water, matzah bread, maror (bitter herbs), egg and charoset (a mixture of apples, nuts, and cinnamon) during the Seder. Each were symbolic reminders of the stories told in the bibli-

cal book of Exodus, in which God helped his people to escape from slavery in Egypt.

Matzah, for example, is bread made without yeast. Because the Jewish people had to make hasty preparations to leave Egypt, they did not have time to wait for the bread to rise. Unleavened bread and wine are also used for the Eucharist during Mass. The bitter herbs were a reminder of the lives of the Jewish people, made bitter by slavery. The egg was symbolic of new life through the death of Jesus, and the new life given to the Jewish people when God freed them from slavery.

Father Leonard read the story of Passover from Exodus 12 and part of Psalm 114 during the celebration. Parishioners ate dinner and then participated in final prayers and a blessing.

Then Father Leonard and those seated at the head table stood, joined hands and started a dance. Those in attendance also joined hands and added to the line, which circled the room and wove in and out among the tables.

Doll said that the church's liturgy committee had been planning the event since February, but that many others had helped with the Seder.

"There are always volunteers to make these things happen, and that's one of the joys of doing it," she said. "We have a great parish spirit here at St. Francis of Assisi."



PHOTO BY ELLEN N. SIGMON

Father Matthew Leonard, pastor of St. Francis of Assisi Church in Lenoir, leads parishioners in the closing prayer of the Seder supper April 13.

## Reliving the Stations of the Cross



COURTESY PHOTO

The seventh-grade religion class of Betty Saunders and Chris Ostrom at Our Lady of Grace School in Greensboro presented the Living Stations of the Cross to the student body April 2. In the above photo, the students depict the crowd mourning for Jesus as he falls while carrying his cross. Pictured are students Melissa Horne, Ryan Farrington, Valentina Pavone, Bryan Spencer, Mariamme Sadri, Ashley Oha, Brenna Currie and Peter DeBenedictus as Jesus.

## Tens of thousands join Catholic Church in U.S.

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Tens of thousands of Americans made final preparations this Lent to be baptized or enter full communion with the Catholic Church at Easter Vigil services April 19.

Reports indicated that all across the country in early March bishops presided over large groups of catechumens celebrating the Rite of Election and others, already baptized, celebrating the Call to Continu-

ing Conversion.

The RCIA program, culminating in a final preparation period in Lent and initiation at Easter, has now become firmly implanted as the normal way that adult catechumens, who are not yet baptized, and candidates, who are baptized, enter the Catholic Church in the United States.

The Diocese of Charlotte had 84 catechumens and 237 candidates this year.

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# Easter Bunny brings eggs, smiles to Holy Angels

By MARY MARSHALL  
CORRESPONDENT

**BELMONT** — The Easter Bunny, complete with fuzzy, floppy ears, hopped onto Holy Angels campus to the delight of residents and staff April 5.

Even a little rain didn't dampen the spirits of the members of St. Thomas Aquinas Knights of Columbus Council 10505, who for the past four years have prepared lunch and supervised an Easter Egg hunt at the various Holy Angels residences.

The Holy Angels Easter Egg Hunt is part of the Knights of Columbus' Operation LAMB (Least Among My Brethren) project. The 194-member council holds fund-raising events throughout the year with all proceeds going to charities. Holy Angels, which provides services for children and adults with mental retardation and other disabilities, is one of the beneficiaries of the project.

"Being with the Holy Angels residents is life affirming," said Mike Rocha, youth director for the Knights of Columbus. "My daughter and her friend came with me. This gives them a greater appreciation for all that they have. It is also an opportunity for all of us to give back in a way many never experience. It's a very rewarding project."

Six Knights accompanied by five of their children and a helpful wife arrived

at the main residence armed with bags of food and lots of energy. It didn't take long before the aroma of ziti began to fill the kitchen as they prepared lunch for 47 residents and 50 staff members, who also enjoyed green beans, applesauce, Kool-Aid and cookies.

While lunch was cooking, the Knights group was busy filling plastic eggs with candy and stickers. Then, they hid the eggs throughout the main center and group homes: Belhaven, Brookview, Pinehaven and Oakcrest. As lunchtime approached, the cooks delivered the meals to the group homes.

Following lunch, the helpers turned into bunnies for the highlight of the day — the Easter Egg Hunt. Fun and frolics followed as they guided residents' wheelchairs down halls, into bedrooms, winding around furniture searching for eggs. Traffic jams occurred; gaiety prevailed. Residents reached out, grabbing the colorful eggs from tables, chairs, and along chair rails.

Knight D.J. Lamb clowned around with the residents, pushing them forward and backward, simulating collisions. Grins, laughs and sparkling eyes rewarded his antics.

"I had a chocolate omelet for breakfast this morning," Lamb told Joshua, a resident, as he steered him toward another egg.



PHOTO BY MARY MARSHALL

**Knights of Columbus Thomas Beckett holds his son, Justin, with resident Raymond wearing the Easter Bunny ears.**

This was Lamb's first time as a Holy Angel Easter bunny and he stole the residents' attentions as he hopped around like a rabbit.

Arriving at Brookview, Lamb told resident Jenny, "Get your key ready, we're about to start your engine. You

like to go fast, don't you?"

Knight Thomas Beckett and his son, Justin, walked resident Trey around Belhaven hand in hand. Justin was anxious to point out another egg. It wasn't long before Trey's bag was nearly full and he was asking to eat the candy.

## Holy Trinity students assist neighbors near and far

*Over 3,000 hours  
of service by  
middle schoolers*

By KAREN A. EVANS  
STAFF WRITER

**CHARLOTTE** — The students at Holy Trinity Catholic Middle School are reaching out to neighbors in need through two programs.

The school is now in its fourth year volunteering at the Crisis Assistance Ministry. The agency, which was founded by a group of clergy in 1975, provides assistance and advocacy for people in financial difficulty and helps them become self-sufficient by providing food, clothing, household goods and money for rent and utilities.

Once a week, 30 eighth-graders and

their advisors spend two hours at the center preparing donated clothing for display. Families in need may shop at Crisis Assistance Ministry every two months, acquiring clothes and household goods at no cost. The program provides almost 600,000 items of clothing and household items each year to low-income families in Charlotte.

"It's been a learning experience for the students," said Carol Belle, faculty advisor for the service project. "It helps them to live out their mission as Holy Trinity students."

Dave Miller, director of operations for Crisis Assistance Ministry, estimates that Holy Trinity students have given over 3,000 hours of community service. Last year, Holy Trinity was recognized with a Community Partnership Award for outstanding service to the agency. Volunteers account for 40 percent of the workload at the center.

"We have had a wonderful partnership with Holy Trinity for the past four years," Miller said. "They understand the meaning of helping others and they come ready to serve."

In addition to their work at Crisis Assistance Ministry, Holy Trinity students participate in the Kentucky Outreach Project with St. Ann and St. Matthew parishes. This ministry collects school supplies, cash and food for families in Elkhorn City, Ky.

Located in rural eastern Kentucky, Elkhorn City is a community of 1,060 residents. Sister Joan Shalapin, pastoral associate for Saint Joseph the Worker Mission, operates a clothing closet that distributes donations.

"Holy Trinity has been a wonderful sponsor for many years," said Sister Joan. "It would be difficult to offer the programs for needy children without their help. Students who spend some time with people

in Kentucky cannot help but be changed in their outlook and priorities."

Sister Joan provides lists of what is required to feed one family for two weeks. Seventh- and eighth-graders then collect canned and dry goods for 300 families.

Sixth-grade students filled backpacks with school supplies for the children of Elkhorn City, including everything from pencils and paper to toilet paper and paper towels. According to Sherry Hilton, faculty advisor for Holy Trinity student council, students must provide even the most basic items themselves.

"The Kentucky Mission Project is a good way to help students realize the importance of helping others, especially during this Lenten season," said Hilton.

Contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans by calling (704) 370-3354 or e-mail [kaevans@charlottediocese.org](mailto:kaevans@charlottediocese.org).

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## Book Review

# Two new histories on U.S. Catholic women

REVIEWED BY MARY KATHRYN GRANT  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

It has been observed that the contributions of women religious to American society appear as a mere footnote in the annals of history. "Catholic Women's Colleges in America" fills this void in the history of higher education.

This collection of essays, funded by the Lilly Endowment, cites case after case of women religious establishing renowned colleges over a period of a century and a half. It covers such examples as the Sisters of the Holy Cross, who came to the United States to assist at the all-male University of Notre Dame and then, determining that women on the frontier needed education as well as men, in 1855 founded what was to become St. Mary's College directly across the street.

Notable essays by historian Jill Ker Conway, theologian Monika Hellwig, and Sister Karen Kennelly, leader of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet, among others, detail little-known aspects of the role congregations of women played in the expansive growth of U.S. Catholic higher education.

Kathleen Mahoney of Boston College's School of Education argues that three factors converged in the establishment of Catholic women's colleges: the legacy of women educators and scholars, dating to the Middle Ages; the compelling need for higher education for women; and the church's interest in filling this need through congregations of women.

Melanie Morey, whose field is the legacy of religious congregations to higher education, looks at present relationships between colleges and their sponsoring religious congregations and at some models colleges are developing to ensure continued fidelity to the mission of their founders.

Other essays cover the variety of scholarship pursued by women religious; the emergence of curricula beyond home economics, nursing, and education; innovations such as weekend colleges, outcome assessment, and external degrees; the educational preparation of women religious; and the critical need for fund raising and development as the "living endowment" of women religious faculty and administrators ebbed.

One notable exception to the completeness of this history is a lack of focus on the role women religious played in the theological education of women. Perhaps this topic deserves its own volume.

A comprehensive appendix lists by state all the institutions of higher education for women founded by women's congregations and their status—operational, closed, merged. This alone is a valuable source of factual information on the topic. Sadly, however, this listing chronicles the decline of over 49 percent in the actual number of colleges over a 30-year period.

Not a mere footnote, indeed. While the whole story yet remains to be told, "Catholic Women's Colleges in America" goes a long way in commemorating the legacy of such renowned women religious as Madeleva Wolf, of the Sisters of the Holy Cross; Ann Ida Gannon, of the Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary; and

Joel Read, of the School Sisters of St. Francis.

"Sisters: Catholic Nuns and the Making of America," by Wall Street Journal reporter John J. Fialka, is an overview of the women religious who shaped the church's ministry in health care and education over the late 19th and 20th centuries. While anecdotal and incomplete, it nevertheless presents an engaging snapshot of what these women accomplished, despite hardships in the environment as well as difficulties within the church.

In this look back, Fialka laments the loss of such things as habits, horarium and communal life. He implies that these changes may have led to the decline in numbers of religious. He does not seem to understand that it was the adaptation of religious life from a cloistered lifestyle to an apostolic one that made possible the developments that he so heralds.

Perhaps the very shortcomings of the book in terms of depth and accuracy will encourage readers to delve into the more authoritative studies of the contributions of women religious. If so, he has made a significant contribution to this important chapter in history.

*Grant is executive director of the Mercy Conference for Higher Education, an office of the Sisters of Mercy in Rockville, Md.*



## Word to Life

Sunday Scripture

Readings: April 20, 2003

April 20, Easter

Cycle B Readings:

- 1) Acts 10:34a, 37-43  
Psalm 118:1-2, 16ab-17, 22-23
- 2) Colossians 3:1-4
- 3) Gospel: John 20:1-9

By JEAN DENTON

CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

The event of Jesus' passion, death and resurrection was an act of sacrifice for our salvation. He didn't sacrifice himself just for the sake of his own life, but to bring us with him in resurrection to new life. This is the truth of Easter.

Most Christians who pay attention can give examples of resurrections they have witnessed. When people sacrifice their own needs, desires, even their lives for the sake of another, new life results. God has graced us with the capacity for this act and constantly calls us to it. That is the life of the risen Christ. I saw it again at a recent youth retreat.

Katie and Gwen were on the youth team that had been preparing for months to lead the retreat. One of their tasks was to present, together, their own testimony of faith. They were excited and anxious about their presentation because a number of their friends, including Gwen's younger sister Andrea, were retreatants.

Katie had told me earlier that the talk would be powerful because Gwen

would tell the story of her mother's death four years ago. She said that when they rehearsed it the week before the retreat, Gwen had broken down in sobs afterward.

At the midpoint of the retreat it was their turn to talk. As team members prayed with them before they entered the room, Gwen wept softly before composing herself. Katie held her hand and led her to the podium.

After telling her own story about her brother as a Christian role model, she held her arm firmly around Gwen's waist while her friend tearfully, bravely told about her mother, who, already ill, had introduced her to Jesus when she was a child so she would always have him to turn to after her mother was gone. The assembly was rapt.

Andrea sat stock still, her eyes riveted on her sister.

When Gwen finished talking, she collapsed into Katie's arms and cried hard, suffering the loss of her mother all over again. She knew it would happen; she knew it would be hard; she knew it would hurt. Yet she chose to share the story, because with it she would bring resurrection—to Katie, to all those young people and to Andrea, who embraced her sister and looked into her eyes as they smiled and cried and smiled and cried.

### Questions:

How have you witnessed or experienced resurrection? When have you made a sacrifice that has been life-giving for another person?

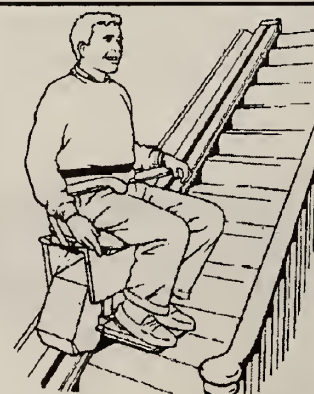
## Weekly Scripture

### Scripture for the week of April 20 - April 26

**Sunday (Easter Sunday)**, Acts 10:34, 37-43, 1 Corinthians 5:6-8, John 20:1-9; **Monday (Easter Monday)**, Acts 2:14, 22-23, Matthew 28:8-15; **Tuesday (Easter Tuesday)**, Acts 2:36-41, John 20:11-18; **Wednesday (Easter Wednesday)**, Acts 3:1-10, Luke 24:13-35; **Thursday (Easter Thursday)**, Acts 3:11-26, Luke 24:35-48; **Friday (Easter Friday)**, Acts 4:1-12, John 21:1-14; **Saturday (Easter Saturday)**, Acts 4:13-21, Mark 16:9-15

### Scripture for the week of April 27 - May 3

**Sunday (Second Sunday of Easter)**, Acts 4:32-35, 1 John 5:1-6, John 20:19-31; **Monday**, Acts 4:23-31, John 3:1-8; **Tuesday (St. Catherine of Siena)**, Acts 4:32-37, John 3:7-15; **Wednesday (St. Pius V)**, Acts 5:17-26, John 3:16-21; **Thursday (St. Joseph the Worker)**, Acts 5:27-33, John 3:31-36; **Friday (St. Athanasius)**, Acts 5:34-42, John 6:1-15; **Saturday (Sts. Philip and James)**, 1 Corinthians 15:1-8, John 14:6-14



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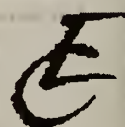
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# 'Ghosts of the Abyss' is haunting look at Titanic

By DAVID DICERTO  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

NEW YORK — Employing cutting-edge 3-D technology, filmmaker James Cameron plunges more than two miles down to the bottom of the sea to the site of the legendary wreck of the Titanic in his impressive Imax documentary, "Ghosts of the Abyss" (Disney).

Having already acquainted audiences with the doomed vessel in his 1997 Academy-Award winning film "Titanic," Cameron wanted to offer viewers a more visceral experience, focusing on the drama of the wreck and its history, rather than romanticizing the disaster with Hollywood storytelling techniques and special effects.

The filmmaker had made several previous dives to the site, documenting the wreckage on film and incorporating much of the footage into his blockbuster, but existing technology prevented him from exploring the Titanic's interiors as thoroughly as he wanted. Intrigued, and committed to helming the most exhaustive investigation possible, Cameron, along with his brother Mike, developed state-of-art technology, including underwater lighting rigs and Remotely Operated Vehicles (ROVs) — affectionately christened Jake and Elwood — designed specifically for this endeavor.

With a handpicked team of marine experts, divers and historians, the filmmaker journeys to the ocean depths, returning with haunting, never-before-

seen 3-D images of the ghostly shipwreck where 1,500 souls lost their lives nearly a century ago. Actor Bill Paxton (Cameron's longtime friend), the expedition's sole nonspecialist, supplies the film's narration.

Cameron wisely restrains from indulging in the more gimmicky tricks usually associated with 3-D movies. While to many, 3-D conjures up images of 1950s audiences donning goofy glasses and dodging projectiles, Cameron judiciously chooses to let the technology remain in the background, enhancing the viewer's overall sensory experience rather than cashing in on funhouse pranks. The 3-D effect is so seamlessly woven into the narrative that after a short time one is no longer conscious of the novelty and surrenders to the voyeuristic thrill of accompanying the filmmaker under the stormy swells, as he voyages down to the luxury steamer's watery grave.

"People have seen the Titanic before," Cameron acknowledges, promising that this time "you're really there; you're experiencing it close up. It's only then that you see what a magnificent artifact it is."

At a depth where the water pressure exceeds 6,000 pounds per square inch, much of the ship's hull, while intact, is indiscernible, appearing at times to be little more than piles of steel rubble. To counteract any audience confusion, the filmmaker takes pains to superimpose images of what each highlighted section looked like in its heyday, complete with ghostly passengers still strolling with parasols along the deck.

Due to the unscripted nature of the expedition, the narrative is at times disjointed — random thoughts intoned in



CNS PHOTO FROM BUENA VISTA

## 'Holes' contain adventure, nifty visuals

Shia LaBeouf and Khleo Thomas star in the Disney family adventure "Holes," a film based on Louis Sachar's adventure-packed novel that uses flashbacks to detail a century-old family curse while teens are forced to dig holes at a desert reform camp. Brief violence and a crass expression. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-II — adults and adolescents. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG — parental guidance suggested.

voice-over, while viewers feel as though they are floating ethereally over the eerie ghost ship. Yet the discursiveness is excused by the historical significance of what one is witnessing — seemingly firsthand.

The inherent drama is ratcheted up at one point when one of the ROVs malfunctions and is marooned in the bowels of the wreck. An exasperated Cameron and his crew decide to mount a daring rescue mission, not merely to retrieve a costly piece of hardware, but in Paxton's words to save "one of the team."

During an ascent, the submersible's crew is informed about the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001. The solemnity of the moment affords Paxton the opportunity to reflect on unsettling questions about the nature of heroism and self-sacrifice in the face of certain death. Commenting on the unsung bravery ex-

hibited by several of the Titanic's crew members, Paxton ponders, "Would I have been a hero? Would you?"

Due to some disturbing images, the USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-II — adults and adolescents. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is G — general audiences.

DiCerto is on the staff of the Office for Film & Broadcasting of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.



  
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## The Pope Speaks

POPE JOHN PAUL II

### Pope says Christ offers world final victory over violence, bloodshed

By JOHN THAVIS  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — Pope John Paul II said a world afflicted by dramatic suffering should find special meaning this year in the Easter celebrations of Christ's death and resurrection.

The pope, speaking at his weekly general audience April 16, said the Easter message of salvation can bring hope to daily lives.

It also should highlight the importance of the Eucharist as the central mystery of the faith, he said. That's why he was to sign an encyclical on the Eucharist the following day, Holy Thursday, he said.

"In this text I intend to present to every believer an organic reflection on the eucharistic sacrifice, which encompasses the entire spiritual good of the church," he said.

The 82-year-old pontiff looked good as he addressed several thousand people in a sunny St. Peter's Square, the day before starting a heavy four-day schedule of Easter activities.

The pope said the final events of Christ's life, remembered during Holy Week liturgies, should bring a deeper awareness of the faith in "the concrete reality of our daily existence."

"This means recognizing that the passion of Christ continues in the dramatic events which, unfortunately, also in these days afflict so many men and women in every part of the world," he said.

"The mystery of the cross and of the Resurrection assures us that hatred, violence, bloodshed and death do not have the last word in human affairs," he said.

"The final victory belongs to Christ, and it is from him that we should make a new beginning, if we want to build a future of authentic peace, justice and solidarity for all," he said.

The pope was to preside over lengthy liturgies marking Christ's last supper with his Apostles on Holy Thursday, his death on Good Friday, the vigil of the faithful on Holy Saturday and Christ's resurrection on Easter.

The pope said the Holy Thursday events underlined the importance of the priesthood for the entire church. By washing the feet of his disciples, Christ showed that their mission must translate into service toward others, he said.

After his talk, the pontiff offered individual greetings to a long line of disabled people, who passed in wheelchairs in front of his white throne. Then he posed for photographs with group after group of schoolchildren, choir members and pilgrims, offering hugs and kisses to the youngest ones.

At the end of the audience, the pope was pushed on a wheeled platform to his open jeep about 20 feet away. He no longer walks even short distances during most public events; during recent liturgies, he has used a specially equipped chair with a built-in lift, which makes it possible for him to celebrate Mass while seated.

#### The care of refugees

The 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees binds nations by international law to properly treat refugees. The Catholic Church's social teaching offers a more powerful demand upon nations to care for refugees. The dignity and value of the human person transcends any governmental policy or law. "The Church offers her love and assistance to all refugees without distinction as to religion or race, respecting in each of them the inalienable dignity of the human person created in the image of God." (Pope John Paul II, Faith Works Through Charity, 1996)

Throughout the Hebrew Scriptures, the prophets speak on behalf of the "anawim" — a Hebrew word meaning the "little ones," or those without power. Traditionally, the word "anawim" is used to identify "the widow, the orphan and the stranger." In Jeremiah 22:3, we read, "Do not wrong or oppress the stranger, the orphan, or the widow." That the Hebrew people were once strangers in foreign lands is used as a teaching point by Moses and the prophets: "You shall treat the alien who resides with you no differently than the natives born among you; have the same love for him as yourself; for you too were once aliens in the land of Egypt" (Leviticus 19:33-34)

The New Testament continues this call for justice toward strangers. The Parable of the Good Samaritan teaches us to reach out in kindness to those not of our land. Jesus, Mary and Joseph were refugees, seeking safety in Egypt to escape King Herod's murderous regime. The Holy Family knows firsthand the fear and struggles of those fleeing for their lives and what it means to depend on the kindness of strangers. Jesus tells us that our eternal fate will be determined by how we treat those who suffer — "as you do to these little ones you do unto me." (Matthew 25)

The Parable of the Rich Man and Lazarus says that we will be judged, in part, by the good deeds that we have not done, yet ought to have done. Lazarus is ignored by the rich man, an omission that lands the rich man in Hades. We usually think of sin as an evil action against another or oneself, yet we must also look at sin as "actions we fail to do." During Mass, Catholics say, "I confess to Almighty

## Guest Column

JOSEPH PURELLO  
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF JUSTICE  
AND PEACE  
CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES



God and to you my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned through my own faults, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do."

The great majority of the world's 19.8 million refugees, displaced persons and asylum seekers (the number comes from the 2001 United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees report) live in destitution and fear as "strangers;" yet plentiful resources exist worldwide to alleviate their suffering. Will one day we find that we "failed to do" for refugees what was demanded of us?

Thankfully, many refugees are receiving assistance. The U.S. Catholic Church resettles nearly one-fourth of all refugees admitted to the United States each year. In our diocese, Catholic Social Services Refugee Resettlement Office (CSSRRO) has given thousands of individuals the opportunity to live in dignity, hope and peace (resettling about 300 refugees per year). The CSSRRO obtains its purpose from the Church's call to "hear the suffering cry of all who are uprooted from their own land." (Pope John Paul II, Message for World Migration Day, 2000)

*Diocesan faithful can assist the work of CSSRRO through contributions of time, talent and treasure. Parishes in the Charlotte Vicariate can join POWR (Parishes Organized to Welcome Refugees). To help, contact Terri Jarina at (704) 370-3234, or Sonia Hayden at (704) 370-3283.*

## Letters to the Editor

#### Incomplete caption

I noted the photo of the funeral of Daniel Moynihan ("Funeral of Daniel P. Moynihan, former senator from New York," April 4), your caption stated he was "a New York Democrat, scholar-statesman and Catholic." But, alas, this seems incomplete. It might have been more accurate to state that he was a New York Democrat, scholar-statesman and proclaimed Catholic who strongly supported the killing of millions of unborn children in the womb.

With friends like Moynihan (or Kennedy, or Niden, or Dodd, et al.), we don't need enemies.

W. Patrick Resen  
Charlotte

#### Letters to the Editor

*The Catholic News & Herald welcomes letters from readers. We ask that letters be originals of 250 words or less.*

*To be considered for publication, each letter must include the name, address and phone number of the writer for purposes of verification. Letters may be condensed due to space limitations and edited for clarity, style and taste.*

*Send letters to Letters to the Editor, The Catholic News & Herald, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, N.C. 28237, or e-mail catholicnews@charlottediocese.org.*





Light One Candle

MSGR. JIM LISANTE  
GUEST COLUMNIST

**Different days of remembrance**

Every year around this time, some friends of mine buy a box of matzos. There wouldn't be anything unusual about that if they were Jewish, but they're not. They're Catholic and they serve the matzos at dinner on Holy Thursday, an idea I found very appealing when I heard about it.

There's nothing unusual about Jewish and Christian holy days occurring near one another. Hanukkah and Christmas usually fall within a few days of each other. But Passover and Easter, with the rest of Holy Week, are linked by much more than the proximity of time: the Passover Seder itself was the meal Jesus shared with His apostles the night before He died. The Last Supper was a Jewish feast.

This year — 2003 for Christians, 5763 for Jews — the first day of Passover is actually on Holy Thursday. What seems strange to me is that although Christians know from the Gospels about the Last Supper and the Seder connection, many ignore it. And that's too bad.

At heart, the Passover story is one of redemption. The eight holy days celebrate God's intervening in human affairs to free the Israelites from slavery and suffering in Egypt. The book of Exodus contains the amazing drama of Moses and Aaron standing before the Pharaoh proclaiming, "Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, 'Let My people go.'" Pharaoh's refusal led to the 10 plagues, culminating in the last: the death of all firstborn. That first Passover night, the angel of death "passed over" the houses

**Does salvation outside the church make sense?**

*Q. Our parish monthly study group is puzzled by two columns you wrote last year concerning salvation outside the Catholic Church. You quoted the Catechism of the Catholic Church that people who live good lives according to their consciences can be saved. And you quote Pope John Paul II that people, apparently including Catholics, have the right to change to another religion. We basically agree. But if that is true, how do we explain that one religion, or no religion, is not just as good as another, and it doesn't make any difference what we believe? (New York)*

A. Let's review first exactly what the Catholic Church teaches today. As Catholics, we believe that the fullest abundance of those aids to salvation intended by Jesus Christ — the sacraments and other liturgical worship, unity of faith, and communion of prayer and teaching — are found in our church.

However, both Vatican Council II (in the Constitution on the Church, No. 14) and the Catechism of the Catholic Church (No. 846) teach clearly that salvation is available to other people, including those not Christian.

Both of these sources put it this way. Whoever, "knowing that the Catholic Church was made necessary by God, through Jesus Christ, would refuse to enter her or to remain in her, could not be saved."

In other words, whoever believes in conscience that he or she has a duty before God to join or remain in the Catholic Church must do so. Obviously, people who are not Catholic generally have no sense of such a responsibility to be part of the Catholic Church. With God's saving grace, salvation is, we believe, open to them.

In his message for the World Day of Peace, Jan. 1, 1999, Pope John Paul II specifically applied this principle also to people who change religions. In the section on the right to religious freedom, which he called the heart of human rights, he taught that "no one can be compelled to accept a particular religion, whatever the

of the Jews who had marked their doors with lamb's blood. Then, because they had to rush to begin their journey, they had no time to bake regular bread. Instead, the Jews made matzoth, flat wafers from flour and water, without yeast, that bake quickly. Hence the other name for Passover: the Feast of Unleavened Bread.

Though time and circumstance have created some changes, for thousands of years these holy days have been celebrated in much the same way by Jews around the world. The rituals included the telling of the Exodus story and a plate of ceremonial food including a roasted egg and a roasted bone, symbolizing sacrifice. God's blessing is invoked, wine and bread consumed and thanksgiving offered to the Lord. The stress on continuity comes straight from the Bible: "This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the Lord; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance." (Exodus 12:14)

For Christians, these rich sacred traditions speak not only of the beliefs and customs of "our 'elder brothers' in the faith of Abraham" as Pope John Paul II has said, but of Jesus Himself, who respected and fulfilled the practices of His own Jewish heritage. Surely, seeing His Last Supper in the light of Passover can open our eyes to the vibrancy of Christian beliefs. We discover the institution of the Eucharist using prayers of blessing and thanksgiving as well as the meal's indispensable bread and wine: "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." (Luke 22:19) For Christians, the Last Supper points to Jesus' sacrifice of Himself through His death on the cross for our liberation from the bondage of sin.

These days, religions are frequently in the news — sometimes positively; too often, not. It's time we looked more deeply into our own faith as well as trying to learn more about different beliefs. There is no reason to disguise our differences. They are real. Yet if we see ourselves as children of God, can we look on others as anything other than our brothers and sisters? Brothers and sisters don't think or act or believe exactly the same way, but they love and respect one another because that's what families do. Just ask our Father.

Question Corner

FATHER JOHN DIETZEN  
CNS COLUMNIST

circumstances or motives." The inviolability of religious freedom, he continued, "is such that individuals must be recognized as having the right even to change their religion if their conscience so demands. People are obliged to follow their conscience in all circumstances and cannot be forced to act against it."

To answer your question then, as the church perceives it, freedom of religion and conscience is based on the rights and dignity of the human person, not on an assumed parity of religions or indifference to the often contradictory beliefs of various religions and cultures.

As Pope Paul VI pointed out, in commenting on the Vatican II Declaration on Religious Freedom, the council does not found this freedom on the fact that all religions and teachings have more or less equal value. It is based rather, he said, "on the dignity of the human person, which demands that he not be subjected to external limitations which tend to constrain the conscience in its search for the true religion or in adhering to it" (1976 address to the College of Cardinals and Roman prelatry).

Thus, the freedom of conscience which the Catholic Church defends does not derive from a notion that all beliefs are equally good and true, so it doesn't make any difference what you believe. Such an attitude, widely held as it may be today, is not sensible or rational.

Coming of Age

AMY WELBORN  
CNS COLUMNIST

**The war in your living room!**

Just think, you can sit in your living room in the United States and watch a war halfway across the world, almost in real time. You can see reporters "embedded" with troops who are fighting on the ground or preparing to fly out on missions. You can watch press conferences led by American military leaders as well as by Iraqi officials. You can watch bombs hit their targets either by way of the planes that released them or the cameras mounted in Baghdad.

And no, this is not a video game. It may look like one, but it's not. The young men and women on those aircraft carriers, in that desert, in those helicopters, are real. The people on the ground are real too. The pain is real, the fury is real and the blood is very, very real.

The questions are real, too, and they continue. If you're paying attention, you know that many people — including Pope John Paul II — have not stopped asking questions about this war, and that's a good thing. People are still asking questions about wars fought hundreds of years ago. It's the way we learn.

But I want to go back to the war in your living room. How does it make you feel?

It might make you feel sad, angry or scared. Scared for people you know and love who are serving, scared for the unknown consequences and scared for the future.

The war in your living room also might make you feel something else. It might lead you to feel more — connected.

The war in our living room, waged by our country, might just be broadening our perspective a little.

After all, this is your country, and in just a few short years (or months, depending on how old you are!) you'll be voting, which means you'll be taking your place in the important job of making decisions about how your country should run. Whether you approve of this war or not, the fact that the decision to wage it was made by officials elected by citizens might make you aware that when it happens — your vote and your opinion "does" make a difference.

Further, if you know anything at all about the situation in Iraq, you know that it didn't happen yesterday or even last week. The suffering of the people of Iraq — both before and during this war — is the result of a lot of factors stretched out over time.

What might hit you when you watch the war in your living room is that in some weird way you are connected to what's going on. No, it's not your fault, and you can't fix it, but what you're seeing right there in your living room is the fruit of sin — of a lot of people's sin, across time and space. It's just like the suffering you see in your own town, in your own family. There's such a thing as personal responsibility, but there's also such a thing as the human family's failure to live up to God's promise as a whole. Watching the war in your living room might remind you of that.

Finally, I hope that through the prayers you say each night for all those suffering under oppression and war you're hearing God's promise that his love is always more powerful than even our greatest sin.



## Charlotte Catholic wins statewide award for work toward moratorium on executions

CHARLOTTE — Ted Frazer, a member of St. Peter's Church in Charlotte, received a statewide award for his efforts to build support for a moratorium on executions.

Frazer received the Stephen J. Dear award from the Unitarian Universalist Church of Charlotte at the Fourth Annual Social Justice Conference March 15.

"Ted has been instrumental in working with the local delegation of legislators to the N.C. General Assembly, leading trips to Raleigh and other places to do lobbying," said Wally Kleucker, chair of the social

justice conference at UCC. "He's been the focal point for moratorium organizing in the Charlotte area."

In 1999, Frazer co-founded the Charlotte Coalition for a Moratorium Now and last year was hired by a coalition of statewide organizations to facilitate their grassroots lobbying campaign for a moratorium on executions. Last year, the church started giving the award and named it after Dear, who is executive director of People of Faith Against the Death Penalty, a statewide interfaith organization based in Carrboro. Dear is also Catholic.

### DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRY

**St. Leo the Great Catholic Church located in beautiful Winston-Salem** is searching for a youth minister to continue an established Life Teen program centered on the Eucharist. We are seeking an enthusiastic, passionate, faith-filled individual to direct young people toward a meaningful, life-affirming journey with Christ.

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Phone: 336-724-0561. Fax: 336-724-7036.

## Reaching out to immigrants



PHOTO BY JOANITA M. NELLENBACH

Tessie Moreilhon (left) of Richmond, Va., and Migdalia Figueroa of Jacksonville, Fla., exchange information during the CLINIC workshop at the Basilica of St. Lawrence in Asheville March 26-27.

### CLINIC, from page 1

teers and social service agency representatives who work with Hispanics and other immigrants gathered from North and South Carolina, Nebraska, Georgia, Virginia, Tennessee, New Jersey, Missouri, Kentucky, New York and Washington, D.C.

Kristen Lambertin, for instance, is director of English as a second language for the Literacy Council of Buncombe County. She mostly works with Hispanics, but also interacts with Ukrainians and Russians, of whom there are some 5,000 families in the Asheville area.

The council is considering expanding its program to include citizenship classes, Lambertin said.

"I felt I needed to learn about immigration law and naturalization," she said.

The workshop, she added, would help her to correct misinformation that clients have about immigration policy.

Catholic Social Services hosted the workshop at CLINIC's request.

"We call them for information frequently because of our need for immigration assistance on legal issue," said Missionary Servants of the Most Blessed Trinity Sister Marie Frechette, WROCSS director.

Volkmer described the Western Regional Office's immigration issues: family petitions, citizenship questions and workers' requests to renew green cards and work permits; in fact, anything not related to political asylum and employer petitions.

CLINIC's topics for the Asheville workshop included the Child Citizenship Act, concept of naturalization, continuous residence and physical presence, the impact of crimes on good moral character and deportability, grounds of inadmissibility, waivers, and affidavits of support, showing that the immigrant's sponsor has the income to maintain the immigrant while he or she is in the United States.

Workshop participants came away with much new information.

Tessie Morielhon, a retired immigration officer from Hawaii, now does immigration work for the Diocese of Richmond, Va. "I wanted to come to learn about the waivers," she said. "Everything has changed since 9/11."

David Stewart, an attorney with International House in Charlotte, a non-profit organization providing programs and services targeted toward low-income immigrants, found the workshop beneficial in terms of legal aspects.

"I brought a checklist of all my questions and got them answered," he said. "I got good materials and good contacts."

Migdalia Figueroa, who specializes in housing law, is an attorney with Jacksonville (Fla.) Legal Aid Inc. and has begun doing pro bono work for Catholic Charities for the Diocese of St. Augustine.

"The presentations have been wonderful," she said. "I feel as if I've learned 300 percent more than I knew before."

Contact Correspondent Joanita M. Nellenbach by calling (828) 627-9209 or e-mail [jnell@dnet.net](mailto:jnell@dnet.net).

## Classifieds

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# A call to prayer

**By KEVIN E. MURRAY**  
**ACTING EDITOR**

**CHARLOTTE** — In observance of the National Day of Prayer May 1, the Mecklenburg Area Catholic Schools (MACS) Moms in Touch groups are holding their annual Mass and reception at Holy Trinity Catholic Middle School.

"The Mass is geared toward praying for our nation," said Lisa Kallander, Moms in Touch leader for Holy Trinity.

Moms in Touch International is an ecumenical organization that encourages mothers and others to meet weekly and pray for their children and their schools. Each school within the MACS system has a Moms in Touch group that prays for the needs of their children and their schools, the diocese and the nation, said Kallander.

"We meet once a week, and it's a very specific type of meeting," she said. "It's not a social, there are no refreshments. We commit to meeting an hour a week to pray for our children, who are our future."

Msgr. Richard Bellow, pastor of St. Gabriel Church, will preside over the Mass, to be held in the school's chapel. MACS principals, diocesan officials and other Moms in Touch groups are expected to attend, said Kallander.

The National Day of Prayer is a vital part of the nation's heritage, according to the Moms in Touch Web

site. In 1775, the first Continental Congress called for such a day. In 1952, a joint resolution by Congress, signed by President Harry Truman, declared an annual national day of prayer. In 1988, the law was amended and signed by President Ronald Reagan, permanently setting the day as the first Thursday of May.

Each year, the president signs a proclamation encouraging all Americans to pray on this day. Last year, all 50 state governors plus the governors of several U.S. territories signed similar proclamations.

"I feel that at this time of war and tribulation in our nation, prayer is a vital tool and an active way to make a difference," said Kallander.

Contact Acting Editor Kevin E. Murray by calling (704) 370-3334 or e-mail [kemurray@charlottediocese.org](mailto:kemurray@charlottediocese.org).

## Want to go?

The National Day of Prayer Mass and reception will be held in the chapel at Holy Trinity Catholic Middle School in Charlotte at 10 a.m. on Thursday, May 1. For more information about the Mass or about Moms in Touch, contact Lisa Kallander at (704) 849-2043.



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

## Dancing the night away

Fifty Members of Knights of Columbus Council 10505 and their daughters enjoy the tunes of DJ Curious George at their 4th annual Daddy/Daughter Dance at St. Thomas Aquinas Church March 29. This year's luau-themed danced raised money to benefit the Special Olympics.

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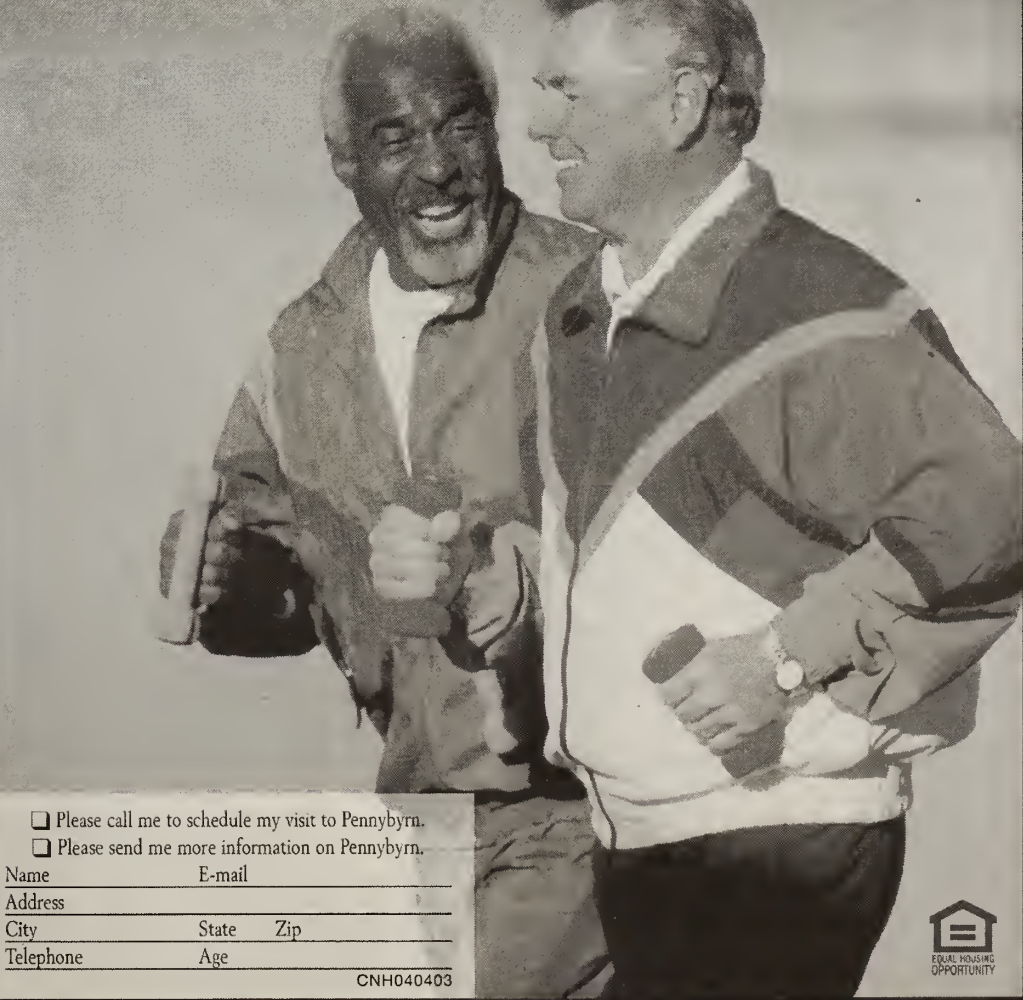
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# Sister of Mercy spends lifetime educating N.C. children

By KAREN A. EVANS  
STAFF WRITER

BELMONT — Sister Eugenia Hartman was born into a Catholic family that included three sisters and a brother. Originally from Philadelphia, the Hartman family moved to Columbia, S.C. when Sister Eugenia was five years old. When she was in the seventh grade, her family moved to Charlotte. Sister Eugenia considers herself an adopted Southerner.

"I always wanted to be a sister, but it was in the seventh grade that I really felt the call," she said. "My first experience with the Sisters of Mercy was when I attended the eighth and ninth grade at O'Donoghue School (now St. Patrick School in Charlotte)."

Three of the sisters in particular made an impression on her: Sister Celine, her piano teacher; Sister Jean Baptiste Meskill; and Sister Stanislaus.

Sister Eugenia became a Sister of Mercy in 1941 at age 17.

"I entered at a time when my father was working out of town, because I knew he thought I was too young and would oppose it. He came to accept my decision but every time my father came to visit he reminded me that 'the door was always open' if I changed my mind. After final profession, he never mentioned it again."

Sister Eugenia received her bachelor's degree from Belmont Abbey College in 1965. Later, she achieved certification for what was then known as "grammar grades," which qualified her to teach any subject to first-through eighth-graders. She also received certification in learning disabilities and a principal's certificate, which

she kept current until two years before her retirement.

Sister Eugenia received her master's degree in education with an emphasis on supervision from Appalachian State University in 1981.

As a teacher for 52 years, Sister Eugenia had many assignments, the first being in Newton Grove in 1942. In 1945, she taught at the old St. Benedict School, located near Belmont Abbey. At the same time she served as a dorm mother at St. Leo's School in Belmont. Sister Eugenia returned to Newton Grove for four more years and later taught at St. Mary School in Wilmington, N.C.

In 1959, Sister Eugenia returned to Belmont, where a new St. Benedict School had been built for the black community. As principal, she set up the first PTA at the school.

"The children at St. Benedict were always very special to me," she said.

At the same time, she was again a dorm mother at St. Leo's School.

Beginning in 1960, Sister Eugenia taught at Sacred Heart School in Salisbury for three years and later taught at Our Lady of the Assumption School in Charlotte; St. Agnes School in Greenport, N.Y.; and St. Eugene School in Asheville. She also served as the Title I Reading and Math teacher for first- through eighth-graders at St. Gabriel School in Charlotte for one year. During her tenures in

Greenport and Asheville, Sister Eugenia also taught faith formation.

Sister Eugenia ministered at Sacred Heart College in Belmont for three years, where she served as psychometrist, tutor and educational consultant.

In 1978, she helped found Dore Academy for Learning Disabled Students with Dr. Mary Dore and Mercy Sister Patricia Doyle. Sister Eugenia was the principal for the school's first 10 years.

Although all subjects were taught at Dore Academy, reading was considered the most critical to students' success. Therefore, every teacher was required to learn the phonics program, which remained the same as students progressed from one grade to the next. In an effort to help teachers master the phonics program, Sister Eugenia

wrote a manual for teaching phonics based on the Gillingham & Stillman approach. The manual was also used by parents in the home and by some area schools.

In 1988, Sister Eugenia's mother began to need more personal care, so she resigned as principal of Dore Academy.



Mercy Sister  
Eugenia Hartman

She was persuaded to remain at the school as the reading teacher, however, due to her expertise in reading and phonics. Sister Eugenia remained at Dore Academy until 1994, when she retired due to her own health problems.

"I have always loved teaching children, but I've learned just as much from them as they have from me," said Sister Eugenia. "In my early days, I enjoyed teaching science and religion because they could be so much fun as well as interesting. But I was always drawn to help children who couldn't read."

"Teaching has many rewards — as the day when I received a letter and a poem written by a former student thanking me for teaching him self-respect," she said. "I was overwhelmed by the love shown to me by the children at the retirement party given to me by Dore Academy."

Sister Eugenia said that the most profound moment of her life occurred at her final profession as a Sister of Mercy.

"During the ceremony, when we prostrated flat on the floor before the altar, I was overcome with the peace, love and mercy of God being poured out on me and I knew this commitment was for the rest of my life," she said. "I have never forgotten that day and it has sustained me through some difficult times."

Sister Eugenia now resides at the Motherhouse of the Sisters of Mercy in Belmont, where she continues life as a Sister of Mercy, participating in the prayer and activities of the Motherhouse.

Contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans by calling (704) 370-3354 or e-mail [kaevans@charlottediocese.org](mailto:kaevans@charlottediocese.org).



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### SARS fears lead Massachusetts shrine to ask Canadians to stay home

STOCKBRIDGE, Mass. (CNS) — The National Shrine of the Divine Mercy asked pilgrims from Canada not to come to this year's April 27 celebration of Divine Mercy Sunday because of concerns about severe acute respiratory syndrome, known as SARS. About 20,000 people were expected at the shrine in western Massachusetts for the annual celebration that follows a week after Easter. Shrine spokeswoman Kathleen Ervin said organizers did not expect that number to decrease significantly because of SARS fears. The decision to ask pilgrims from Ontario not to come was made after consultation with the Massachusetts Department of Health, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the National Institutes of Health, she said. The ban on groups from Canada affected 11 busloads of pilgrims, all from the region around Toronto that was included in the World Health Organization's advisory against travel there, she said. No bus groups from other parts of Canada had made plans to come to Stockbridge, but they would not have been affected by the restriction, according to Ervin.

### Holy Cross asked to distance itself from honoree's abortion views

WORCESTER, Mass. (CNS) — A former chairman of trustees at the College of the Holy Cross has asked the Worcester college to dissociate itself from what he called the "pro-choice" position on abortion of this year's commencement speaker, Chris Matthews. Matthews, who graduated from Holy Cross in 1967, is an author and hosts the nightly political analysis and debate show, "Hardball With Chris Matthews," on MSNBC television. He is to speak at the 157th Holy Cross commencement May 23 and receive an honorary degree. Charles E.F. Millard told The Catholic Free Press, Worcester diocesan newspaper, that he has no objection to the school honoring



CNS PHOTO BY KAREN CALLAWAY, NORTHWEST INDIANA CATHOLIC

### Honoring Mom

Father Charles Mosely, a priest in the Diocese of Gary, Ind., poses with his mother, Lorraine, at their family home in Gary. The two spend time together gardening in the backyard. All mothers are honored in special ways on Mother's Day, which is May 11 this year.

Matthews as long as the college dissociates itself from his abortion stand. Millard is a 1954 graduate of Holy Cross and was chairman of its board of trustees from 1977 to 1982. Katharine B. McNamara, director of public affairs at Holy Cross, took issue with Millard's characterization of Matthews' position on abortion because she said his view is "not inconsistent with the position of the church or the college."

### Catholic educators need to reach adults, entire culture, speaker says

ST. LOUIS (CNS) — Catholic educators have their work cut out for them. On top of their responsibilities to teach the children in their own schools and in religious education programs,

they have been urged to now take on the task of educating adults in this country and offering alternative views to current trends in American culture. That challenge was presented to them April 24 during one of the general sessions of the annual National Catholic Educational Association convention April 22-25 in St. Louis attended by 14,000 delegates. Keynote speaker Margaret O'Brien Steinfels, author and former editor of Commonweal magazine, urged the educators to consider how Catholic education "must enlarge its mission, extend its reach, enrich the Catholic community and thereby enrich the culture. Do more, for more people." She said, "Above all, this enlarged mission must include adult education." She pointed out that

she knows adult education already goes on in many schools and religious education programs, particularly with sacramental preparation, tutoring or helping parents with their children's special needs.

### Pope's Spain trip to show rapport with youths, penchant for saints

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Two weeks before his 83rd birthday, Pope John Paul II will highlight three of the most notable characteristics of his pontificate: foreign travel, his rapport with young people and his penchant for proclaiming saints. The pope is scheduled to make the 99th foreign trip of his papacy May 3-4, visiting Spain's capital, Madrid. His May 18 birthday and the 25th anniversary of his election as pope, Oct. 16, will be feted by the Spanish crowds. In return, the pope will meet with Spanish youths May 3 and will canonize five Spanish religious May 4.

### Chinese underground Catholics harassed during Easter, source says

HONG KONG (CNS) — Chinese underground Catholics were harassed during the Easter season, a church source in Hong Kong said. Police detained a Catholic priest in Fujian province, and some seminarians were detained during a picnic just before Holy Week, reported UCA News, an Asian church news agency based in Thailand. The source told UCA News that 18 seminarians were "sentenced" in mid-April to a month's imprisonment, while Father Zheng Ruipin of Fuzhou Diocese was still waiting for his sentencing. The source, who asked not to be named, added that details about the charges and the whereabouts of those affected were not clear. The source said that on April 12 a police officer discovered Father Zheng and 10 seminarians praying the breviary during a picnic in the city of Changle, near Fuzhou. The source said the picnic was meant to offer some relaxation to the seminarians, who often had to stay indoors to avoid public exposure.

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## Diocesan planner

### Upcoming parish events May

**5 CLEMMONS** — Holy Family Church, 4820 Kinnamon Rd., will be celebrating a charismatic Mass tonight at 7:30 p.m. The sacrament of reconciliation will be given at 7 p.m., and the laying on of hands will take place after Mass. The next Mass will be celebrated on June 2. For more information, call the church office at (336) 778-0600 or Jim Passero at (336) 998-7503.

**5 CHARLOTTE** — The bereavement support group will meet tonight 6-7:30 p.m. and every first Monday in the family room at St. Gabriel Church, 3016 Providence Rd. This support group is for anyone who has experienced the loss of a loved one. For details, call Ruth Posey, CSS counselor, at (704) 370-3238.

**5 CHARLOTTE** — Christians in Ca-

reer Transition is a ministry of St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy., devoted to helping people in career crises. The meetings will take place on the first and third Mondays of every month 7-9 p.m. in the conference room. For more information, call Rev. Mr. Jim Hamrlik at (704) 576-0456.

**5 CHARLOTTE** — The cancer support group for survivors, family and friends will meet today and every first Tuesday at 7 p.m. at St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy. For more information, call Marilyn Borrelli at (704) 542-2283.

**7 HICKORY** — Catholic Social Services Elder Ministry will host its 17th Annual Spring Fling today at St. Aloysius Church, 921 Second St. NE, 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Come join seniors from throughout the diocese for a day filled with music, games, bingo, crafts, door prizes, lunch, Mass and more. For more information call Sandra Breakfield at (704) 370-3220.

**7 ALBEMARLE** — The Forever Young Club of Our Lady of the Annunciation

Church, 416 N. 2nd St., will be having a meeting and a covered dish lunch in the Family Life Center this morning at 10 a.m. For further details, call Gerald Maiden (704) 982-5261.

**7 CHARLOTTE** — The Happy Timers of St. Ann Church, 3635 Park Rd., will be having a meeting with a luncheon and program at 1 p.m. in the parish activity center. All adults age 55 and older are welcome. For more information about the senior group or bingo every Thursday night at 7 p.m., call Charles Nesto at (704) 398-0879.

**8 CHARLOTTE** — Mecklenburg County Division of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, an Irish-Catholic fraternal organization, will meet today at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 220 E. Kingston Avenue. Prospective members are welcome. For more information, contact Bruce Thompson at (704) 785-4000.

**10 CHARLOTTE** — The Vietnamese Cursillo group will have a leader school meeting tonight at 7 p.m. at Our Lady of the Assumption Church, 4207 Sham-



### Alberta community mourns deaths of four nuns killed Easter Sunday

CALGARY, Alberta (CNS) —

While the Sisters of Charity of St. Louis in Calgary mourned the deaths of four of their members, they also prayed for the driver of the tractor-trailer that crashed into the sisters' car. "We hope he can recover from the tragedy, to heal and carry on with his life. Our hearts go out to him," Sister Joan Burns said of the driver, Serge Major. The accident occurred Easter Sunday, April 20, when Major's truck crashed into the nuns' vehicle on the Trans-Canada Highway near Canada Olympic Park. Both vehicles were traveling west on the highway when the large truck rear-ended the nun's Chevrolet Cavalier. Killed in the accident were Sisters Theresa Tetrault, 72; Joan Flaherty, 82; Norma Basso, 77 and Rita Proulx, 74. Two sisters died instantly; two others died after being transported to the hospital. Another nun, Sister Helen Hengel, 79, was hospitalized in serious condition, but was expected to survive.

### British report cites state collusion in Northern Ireland violence

DUBLIN, Ireland (CNS) — A report by Britain's most senior police officer revealed that the British army colluded with loyalists in Northern Ireland to murder civilians. The 3,000-page report by Sir John Stevens, metropolitan police commissioner, said senior police and military officers were involved in plots to kill civilians, including Pat Finucane, a Catholic human rights lawyer who represented members of the Irish Republican Army. The report, released April 17, focuses on Finucane, who was shot 14 times in 1989 in front of his wife and children, and the 1987 slaying of Protestant teen-ager Brian Adam Lambert as crimes that should have been prevented. In a 20-page summary of the report, Sir John said he was investigating 26 other murders that allegedly involved collusion between British security forces and loyalist paramilitary squads. Loyalists, predominantly Protestant, support continued British rule in Northern Ireland.



CNS PHOTO COURTESY U.S. NAVY

**Navy chaplains set up cross on deck of USS Nimitz**  
U.S. Father Daniel Reardon and Kyle Fauntleroy, a Protestant chaplain, set up a cross on the flight deck of the USS Nimitz April 20 before the celebration of Easter sunrise services. The Navy chaplains were ministering to servicemen and women aboard the carrier in the Persian Gulf to support Operation Iraqi Freedom.

### Thousands of Catholic educators begin 100th NCEA convention

ST. LOUIS (CNS) — Your work influences millions of people, Bishop Wilton D. Gregory told thousands of Catholic educators filling the convention hall at America's Center in downtown St. Louis April 22 at the opening session of the National Catholic Educational Association's 100th convention. Calling Catholic parishes and schools bastions of stability and hope in many communities,

Bishop Gregory said, "I personally know that to be true." Citing his own experience becoming a Catholic as a youth in Chicago, he said, "An inner-city Catholic school changed my life." Bishop Gregory, the first keynote speaker at the April 22-25 NCEA convention, is head of the Diocese of Belleville, Ill., and president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. Archbishop Justin F. Rigali of St. Louis, principal celebrant at the first Mass of the convention, welcomed the Catholic educators to St. Louis "with great joy."

### Cloistered nuns reach out to the world via the Web

TERRE HAUTE, Ind. (CNS) — Taking what they call "a leap into the deep," the Discalced Carmelite nuns at the Monastery of St. Joseph in Terre Haute have created a World Wide Web site devoted to helping people grow closer to God. Their Web site, [www.heartsawake.org](http://www.heartsawake.org), features prayers and spiritual reflections that invite people to turn to God in faith and hope amid the challenges of daily life. The cloistered nuns, who wear traditional habits and maintain a secluded life of prayer in their monastery on a hill south of Terre Haute, officially launched their site in late January. "It's been a three-year project and represents quite a new and exciting step in our life," Sister Veronica de Stockalper told The Criterion, newspaper of the Indianapolis Archdiocese. She is her order's self-taught webmaster, who relied on prayer and more than 20 software program textbooks to create the complex computer codes and design a beautifully illustrated Web site.

### Peace is gift that blossoms in heart, moves from there, pope says

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — True peace is a gift that blossoms in the human heart and spreads from there, Pope John Paul II said during a general audience in St. Peter's Square, still adorned with flowers from his Easter morning Mass. The first words spoken by Jesus to his disciples after the resurrection were "Peace be with you," the pope told an estimated 15,000 visitors gathered April 23 for the general audience. "We can say that this expression, 'Peace be with you,' 'shalom' in Hebrew, contains and synthesizes in a certain way the whole Easter message," he said. Peace is the gift offered to humanity through the death and resurrection of Jesus, the pope said. Peace, he said, "is born from the profound renewal of the human heart. It is not the result of human efforts, nor can it be reached just through agreements between persons or institutions."

rock Dr. For details, call Do Ky at (704) 532-9094.

**12 FRANKLIN** — The Women's Guild of St. Francis of Assisi Church, 299 Maple St., will be having their monthly meeting tonight at 7 p.m. in the Family Life Center. The meetings feature guest speakers and special events periodically. For more information, call Claire Barnable at (828) 369-1565.

**13 CHARLOTTE** — The St. Gabriel Church Arthritis Support and Education Group will meet this morning 10-11 a.m. in Room D of the parish ministry center located at 3016 Providence Rd. For further details, call (704) 362-5047, ext. 217.

**13 CHARLOTTE** — The 50+ Club of St. John Neumann Church, 8451 Idlewild Rd., will be conducting a meeting this morning at 11 a.m. with a program and lunch in the parish center. Donations are being accepted during the meeting. For more information, call Lucille Kroboth at (704) 537-2189.

**16 CHARLOTTE** — Thank God It's Friday (TGIF), a weekly support group for separated and divorced women,

meets tonight at 7 p.m. in the St. Matthew Church parish center, 8015 Ballantyne Pkwy., with its monthly potluck dinner with a guest speaker from the community. TGIF is a healing ministry sponsored by Catholic Social Services, Charlotte Regional Office and St. Matthew Church. For details, call Trish Wilson at (704) 543-8986.

**18 CHARLOTTE** — St. Thomas Aquinas Church, 1400 Suther Rd., will be hosting an Ultreya today at 1:30 p.m. There will be a family potluck and childcare will be available. For more information, call Dan Hines at (704) 544-6665 or visit [www.charlottecursillo.org](http://www.charlottecursillo.org). To receive Cursillo information via e-mail contact [bmayer@alltell.net](mailto:bmayer@alltell.net).

**19 ASHEVILLE** — The St. Martin De Porres Pro-Chapter of the Dominican Laity will be meeting tonight and every third Monday at 7 p.m. in St. Justin's Center at the Basilica of St. Lawrence, 97 Haywood St. Inquirers are welcome. For more information, contact Beverly Reid, OPL, at (828) 253-6676.

**19 CHARLOTTE** — The Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians Division 1 Mecklenburg County-St. Brigid, an Irish-Catholic social and charitable inter-parish group, will meet tonight at 7:30 p.m. at St. Gabriel Church, 3016 Providence Rd. Anyone interested in their Irish-Catholic roots, call Jeanmarie Schuler at (704) 554-0720 for further information.

**22 STATESVILLE** — The Sweet Adelines will perform at St. Philip the Apostle Church, 525 Camden Dr. The program will begin at 7:30 p.m. and will be followed by light refreshments. This performance is co-sponsored by St. Philip's Seniors Club and Knights of Columbus St. James Council #7152. For more details, call the church office at (704) 872-2579.

**25 HENDERSONVILLE** — The St. Francis of the Hills Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order will meet today 3-5 p.m. at Immaculate Conception Church, 208 7th Ave. West. Visitors and inquirers are welcome, so for more information, call Helen Gilligly, SFO, at (828) 883-9645.

**26 NEWTON** — The Little Flowers

Catholic Girls' Group is for all Catholic girls ages five and up. The group will be meeting at St. Joseph Church, 720 West 13th St., at 4 p.m. in the Holy Family Hall. For more details, call Debbie Vickers at (828) 495-2039.

**28 GUILFORD COUNTY** — The Ancient Order of Hibernians Guilford County Division, the oldest and largest order of Irish Catholic men, is looking for more Irish Catholic men to join them for meetings, educational seminars and social events. Contact Michael Slane at (336) 665-9264 for time and location.

**30 GREENSBORO** — 'Go and Tell,' the annual Catholic Renewal Conference, featuring Rev. Tom Forrest, CSSR, international director of Evangelization 2000, will be held May 30-June 1, at Greensboro College, 815 West Market Street. Speakers also include Rev. Christopher Davis of Reidsville and Mrs. Hannah Hammer of Greensboro. On-campus housing, meals and child care are provided. For registration information, contact Melodie Manna at 336-760-1110.



# Fighting violence in the family

*Workshop explores ways to combat domestic abuse*

By JOANITA M. NELLENBACH  
CORRESPONDENT

WAYNESVILLE — She attended Mass in the Diocese of Charlotte last weekend. Maybe she sat beside you, hugged you or shook your hand during the sign of peace — her moment of peace this week.

"She" and her sisters in torment are domestic violence victims. They are united, not by religion — domestic violence spreads across all denominations — but by the physical, emotional or mental abuse they suffer.

To help stop domestic violence in far-western North Carolina, the Smoky Mountain Vicariate helped fund "Partnership for Peace" (PFP), created by the 30th Judicial District Domestic Violence-Sexual Assault Alliance last year. The Order of St. Augustine, the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation and the Duke Endowment Foundation also fund the project.

Some 100 clergy and laypeople from throughout western North Carolina attended PFP's first conference, "Violence in the Family: A Faith Perspective," at First United Methodist Church April 26. Through lectures and workshops, the attendees learned how to help domestic violence victims in their own congregations and communities.

"It seems more fitting that we would have this conference in a church community," said Augustinian Father Francis J.

Doyle as the program opened. "We want our churches to be living sanctuaries of safety. It is a scandal that churches are not always such sanctuaries. When I first came to Haywood County, I was dismayed to learn that churches were not involved in eradicating domestic violence."

Father Doyle, pastor of St. Margaret Church in Maggie Valley, first learned about domestic violence at a St. Margaret Women's Guild Christmas luncheon a few months after he arrived in western North Carolina in 1998. Father Doyle said he was shocked by the widespread violence.

Nationally, 15-17 percent of women experience some form of family violence, according to REACH (a regional organization to assist domestic abuse victims). In the last few years, there have been over 3,000 abused women in North Carolina's seven westernmost counties that comprise the Smoky Mountain Vicariate. From July 1, 2001-June 30, 2002, REACH of Haywood County handled 1,786 calls for help.

One conference speaker, Lavon Morris-Grant, was a domestic abuse survivor whose husband shot her four times before turning the gun on himself. Morris-Grant wrote "Whom Shall I Fear: A Spiritual Journey of a Battered Woman," an account of her domestic abuse nightmare.

Father Doyle is now co-chair of the

Haywood County Domestic Violence Task Force, a PFP advisory committee member, is on the board of directors of Haywood County REACH and counsels domestic abuse victims, Catholic and Protestant alike.

Conference workshops covered how the church can help victims, teen dating violence, understanding the Latino culture and how the church can respond to child abuse. Father Doyle and Allison Best-Teague, executive director of the Kids Advocacy Resource Effort, co-facilitated the workshop on "Theological Issues Surrounding Domestic Violence."

Some victims believe they cannot break the marriage covenant, but, Father Doyle said, "As soon as the abuse starts, the covenant is broken. The God I believe in could never condone that violence. A lot of [victims] say that 'This must be God's will for me.' No, God could not will evil."

Some pastors and ministers, as well as the abusers, may quote Scripture, particularly, "Wives, be subject to your husbands ... (Ephesians 5:22) or tell the victim that the abuse is her fault.

"Friends of ours (in New York state), that's exactly what her parish priest told her: 'What are you doing wrong?' That makes it very hard to go back to church," said St. Margaret parishioner Mary Anne Yurko.

Yurko is a member of the St. Mar-

garet Women's Guild, which, each Christmas, "adopts" two or three families staying at the REACH shelter. The Guild and the St. Margaret Quilters provide emergency financial assistance to domestic violence victims trying to get back on their feet. In addition, the Quilters make and raffle off a quilt each year, using the money to meet battered women's needs as they arise — electric bills that need to be paid, for example.

One workshop attendee suggested churches hold "Undie Sundays," in which parishioners would contribute packages of new underclothing, or money to purchase the garments, to give to REACH for women who must flee their homes with only the clothes on their backs.

"The first time I'd even heard about domestic abuse was when Patty (Gaddis of REACH) came to our meeting," Shirley Hillyer, a St. Margaret parishioner, said. "I sat through the whole meeting almost numb. I said to Father Frank, 'As far as I know, I don't know anybody who's been abused,' and he said, 'That's the word — as far as you know.'"

Contact Correspondent Joanita M. Nellenbach by calling (828) 627-9209 or e-mail [jnell@dnnet.net](mailto:jnell@dnnet.net).

**In an emergency, dial 9-1-1.**

National Domestic Violence Hotline: 1-800-799-SAFE (7233) or 1-800-787-3224

Childhelp USA National Child Abuse Hotline: 1-800-4-A-CHILD (1-800-422-4453).

## The U.S. bishops on domestic violence

WASHINGTON (CNS) — At the Nov. 11-14, 2002 fall general meeting in Washington of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, the bishops updated their stance on domestic violence against women, reiterating that such actions are sinful and often criminal.

"When I Call for Help: A Pastoral Response to Domestic Violence Against Women," an update of a 10-year-old pamphlet-sized document, gives new statistics that reflect the scope of domestic violence against women, as well as resources to aid abused women since the first edition's publication in 1992.

Bishop Edward P. Cullen of Allentown, Pa., chairman of the bishops' Committee on Women in Society and in the Church, said one important modification made through the bishops' suggestions was to draw a distinction between battering and abuse. The modifications, he added, "clearly strengthen the document."

The document defines domestic violence as "any kind of behavior that a person uses to control an intimate partner through fear and intimidation" and said it includes "physical, sexual, psychological, verbal and economic abuse."

The statement was the product of both the bishops' Committee on Women in Society and in the Church and the Committee on Marriage and Family.

"Violence in any form, physical, sexual, psychological, or verbal, is sinful; many times, it is a crime as well," says the new document, echoing the 1992 version.

The document urges priests and parish personnel to see themselves as "a first line of defense for women who are suffering from abuse," noting that even when abusers try to isolate their victims from other social contacts, "they may still allow them to go to church."

Also, it says, the church should offer aid to the abusers who, like their victims, "need Jesus' strength and healing."

"Religion can be either a resource or a roadblock for battered women," it said. "As a resource, it encourages women to resist mistreatment. As a roadblock, its misinterpretation can contribute to the victim's self-blame and suffering and to the abuser's rationalizations."

The document takes issue with those who cite the Bible to excuse abusive behavior. "As bishops, we condemn the use of the Bible to support abusive behavior," it says.

Among the statistics that "When I Call for Help" cites are that, while women between ages 16-24 are three times more likely than other age groups to be victims of domestic violence, women between ages 35-49 are the most likely to be killed.

The bishops similarly cautioned against a misinterpretation of forgiveness to justify continued abuse. "Rather, forgiveness means that the victim decides to let go of the experience and move on," the statement said.

The document also argues against the view that church teaching on the permanence of marriage requires victims to remain in an abu-

sive relationship.

"We emphasize that no person is expected to stay in an abusive marriage. Violence and abuse, not divorce, break up a marriage," the statement says. "We encourage abused persons who have divorced to consider seeking an annulment. This process ... can open the door to healing and new, life-giving relationships."

More than 240,000 copies of the original statement had been sold in En-

glish and Spanish and had been used by parishes, diocesan women's commissions and family life offices, hospitals and women's groups throughout the country, according to a joint statement to bishops by Bishop Cullen and Bishop Kevin Boland of Savannah, Ga., who chairs the Committee on Marriage and Family.

A copy of the document can be found online at [www.nccbuscc.org/laity/help.htm](http://www.nccbuscc.org/laity/help.htm)

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# Seniors fling into spring

*Annual event entertains, ministers to elders of diocese*

By KAREN A. EVANS

STAFF WRITER

HUNTERSVILLE — "Bingo!"

Cheers and groans followed the announcement. "This is the worst card," someone said.

Despite complaints about bad bingo cards, all 180 seniors were thoroughly enjoying themselves at the 17th annual Spring Fling at St. Mark Church April 24. The event will be repeated at St. Aloysius Church in Hickory May 7.

"It is like a homecoming or a family reunion for many of the seniors, and the Spring Fling continues to be a day where everyone can forget the demands of life and join others in the spirit of oneness and friendship," said Sandra Breakfield, director of Elder Ministry.

Spring Fling is sponsored annually by Elder Ministry, a service of Catholic Social Services. Elder Ministry provides guidance to parishes within the Diocese of Charlotte in order to enhance the well-being of older adults. Annual events such as the Spring Fling and Fall Day of Reflection provide an opportunity for elders to gather for entertainment, camaraderie, education and spiritual enrichment.

Mercy Sister Elizabeth Roberts, who taught in Charlotte-area schools, saw the parents of many of her former students. "It's a joy for me to be here and reminisce with old friends," she said.

The festivities kicked off with a performance by the Amity Line Dancers. Under the direction of Mary Parker, this group of 12 senior women performs year-round at civic functions, nursing and retirement homes and community shows.

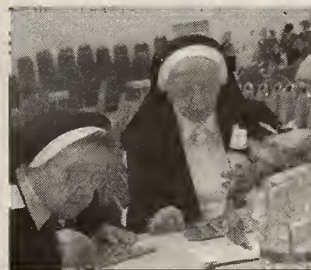
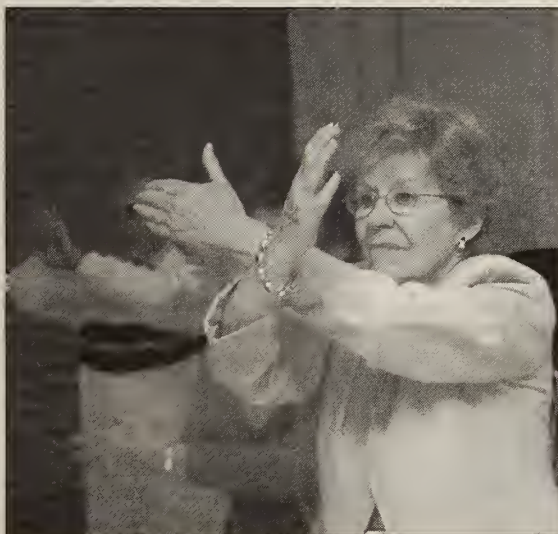
In a day was filled with activities ranging from crafts to chair massage to some extremely competitive bingo games, the most significant activity seemed to mingling with other seniors.

"This is a wonderful opportunity for the sisters at the Marian Center to socialize with the people of the diocese," said Karen Mikell, office coordinator for the Marian Center, a residential care and assisted living facility operated by and for the Sisters of Mercy.



PHOTOS BY KAREN A. EVANS

Seniors from churches throughout the Diocese of Charlotte experiment with Spiritual Tai Chi, enjoy line dancing and compete in bingo games at the annual Spring Fling.



Many of the attendees took advantage of the opportunity to participate in several of the recreational activities, including music trivia and a sing-along on the piano led by Mary Finlayson, a parishioner at Our Lady of Assumption Church in Charlotte and a crafts class taught by Gee Gee Gabriel and Joanna Grabinski, parishioners at Holy Spirit Church in Denver.

Aside from an abundance of recreational activities, the seniors had several opportunities to focus on their health and well-being. Participants could have their blood pressure checked by members of the Mecklenburg EMS Agency and attend a demonstration of Healing Touch therapy by JoAnne McMurtie. Healing Touch is a group of non-invasive tech-

niques that certified practitioners use to promote self-healing by their patients.

More hands-on healing came from Cheri Anulies, who gave five-minute chair massages to willing volunteers in the "Chairway to Heaven." Helen Gassen, a parishioner at St. Gabriel Church in Charlotte, gave lessons in Spiritual Tai Chi, a method of meditation, breathing and gentle exercise based on an ancient Chinese system, which under the guidance of the Holy Spirit is used to heal the body and relax the mind.

Lucille Kroboth, representing the Carolina Piedmont Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association, displayed "fidget aprons." A common side effect of dementia is busy, fidgety hands. These aprons have a variety of "activities" such as zippers, keys, beads and buckles that help keep Alzheimer's patients hands occupied while also serving as memory aids.

The afternoon provided an opportunity for seniors to attend activities they missed in the morning, or take a second chance at the bingo game.

"We just came to Charlotte from New York, and this is the first event we've been invited to," said Jean and Harold Wolfe, parishioners from St. Matthew Church in Charlotte. "This has been a wonderful day."

"I am always happy to have Elder Ministry meet here," said Msgr. Joseph Kerin, pastor of St. Mark Church, who celebrated Mass at the conclusion of Spring Fling. "This is a special time for us, to see people so happy. This is a wonderful activity for the diocese."

Contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans by calling (704) 370-3354 or e-mail [kaevans@charlottediocese.org](mailto:kaevans@charlottediocese.org).

*Elder Ministry is one of 36 ministries that reaps a fruitful harvest thanks to your contribution to the Diocesan Support Appeal.*

## Want to go?

The next Elder Ministry Spring Fling will take place at St. Aloysius Church in Hickory on May 7 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. For more information, call Sandra Breakfield at (704) 370-3220.

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## Three faiths unite for peace



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

Members of the Christian, Islamic and Jewish communities in Gastonia pray for peace and understanding among their faiths at St. Michael Church April 24.

## Christians, Muslims and Jews find common ground in one God

By KAREN A. EVANS  
STAFF WRITER

GASTONIA — A group of about 25 people gathered April 24 to pray for and reflect on peace.

The participants, who represented the Christian, Islamic and Jewish faiths, met at St. Michael Church and each brought their own style of prayer to the service. Rev. Mr. John Weisenhorn, permanent deacon for St. Michael Church, opened the service with a traditional Orthodox prayer.

He was followed by Bill Gross, a member of Temple Emmanuel, who read from the book of Isaiah 2:4: "They shall beat their swords into plowshares

and their spears into pruning hooks; One nation shall not raise the sword against another, nor shall they train for war again."

Finally, the Islamic call to prayer was sung by Ghassan Baroudi, a member of the Islamic Society of Gastonia.

Following the opening prayers, Terri Wilson, a parishioner of St. Michael Church and a chaplain at Carolinas Medical Center, invited the faithful to share their personal feelings on war and peace, particularly the recent war in Iraq.

Bayoumi's daughter Essraa, a junior at Ashbrook High School, was the first to speak. "God made us into different tribes

so that we could learn to live together, despite our differences," she said.

"We should pray for peace in our hearts, because if we don't have peace in our own hearts, we can never have peace in the world," said Cam Tracy, a parishioner of St. Michael Church and one of the event's coordinators. Tracy's son is a senior at The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a member of the Marine Corps Reserve. He was recently activated and is presently stationed at Camp LeJeune in Jacksonville, N.C.

Many of the participants spoke of the fact that all three faiths represented — Christianity, Islam and Judaism — worship the same God.

"We are all praying to the same God," said Dennis Teall-Fleming, director of Faith Formation at The Church of Mary, Queen of Apostles. "I pray that God would take the anger in our hearts and turn it into something good."

Rev. Mr. Weisenhorn's wife, Rosemarie, said, "I thank God for all the beauty that surrounds us in the spring; I ask forgiveness for the ways our wars destroy this beauty."

The prayer service concluded with those in attendance forming a circle around a table of lit candles and being led in a closing song by Charlie Brown, a cantor from Temple Emmanuel.

Contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans by calling (704) 370-3354 or e-mail [kaevans@charlottediocese.org](mailto:kaevans@charlottediocese.org).

### Want to go?

Additional interfaith prayer services are being planned in the Gastonia area throughout the summer. For more information, please contact Dennis Teall-Fleming at [teallfleming@yahoo.com](mailto:teallfleming@yahoo.com).

### Vatican official urges deepening of Catholic-Muslim dialogue

WASHINGTON (CNS) — A top Vatican official and an internationally renowned Muslim scholar said April 24 that the quest for peace in the world calls for efforts to advance Catholic-Muslim dialogue at all levels.

Archbishop Michael L. Fitzgerald, president of the Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue, said the very fears and tensions caused by events such as the war on Iraq and the U.S. terrorist attacks in 2001 "have brought Christians and Muslims together, perhaps more than ever before. New opportunities have been created for a constructive dialogue between the adherents of Christianity and Islam."

Imam Abdulaziz Sachedina, a professor of religious studies at the University of Virginia, acknowledged the growth of dialogue among Muslim and Christian leaders and scholars but asked, "When dialogue takes place at the official level, is it reaching the people? This is where the dialogue needs to have its effect. This is where respect has to take place."

The two spoke to an overflow crowd in the meeting hall of Annunciation Parish in Washington. Cardinal Theodore E. McCarrick of Washington and Cardinal William H. Keeler of Baltimore, both members of the U.S. bishops' Subcommittee on Interreligious Dialogue, were among those attending.

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Rev. Henri Blanc	1972
Rev. James A. Stuber	1985
Rev. Msgr. Michael O'Keefe	1994
Rev. Francis J. McCourt	1982
Rev. William McShea	1973
Rev. James E. Noonan	1992
Rev. Edmund Kirsch	2001

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## GRACE AWARD, from page 1

dedication to his fellow priests, as well as to the poor, persons suffering with AIDS and those marginalized in society were reasons why he was selected for the award, said Abbot Solari.

"He made the larger community sensitive to their presence and needs," said the abbot.

The Grace Award is presented by the Belmont Abbey College Associates and the college's board of advisors. It is named for Charles L. "Chuck" Grace, president of Cummings Atlantic Inc., a longtime supporter of Belmont Abbey College and a current member and past chair of the college's board of trustees.

Grace presented the award to Bishop Curlin at the dinner, during which remarks were offered by Abbot Solari; Mercy Sister Rosalind Picot, president of the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas Regional Community of North Carolina; and Msgr. Anthony Marcaccio, pastor of St. Pius X Church in Greensboro and former priest secretary to the bishop.

"I am pleased to see Bishop Curlin receive the Grace Award, honoring him for his ongoing ministry," said Msgr. Mauricio W. West, diocesan administrator.

Bishop Curlin, who retired in September 2002, was humbled when he first heard of the award in his honor.

"I believe you just do your work and do the best you can," he said. "I just tried my best, and don't think I've done anything to merit such an award."

When the bishop learned the award dinner provides scholarship funding for Belmont Abbey College, the only Catholic college in the Carolinas, he decided to accept the award.

"It's not for me," he said, "it's to benefit the students."

Despite initial criticism in a Charlotte newspaper, Abbot Placid said there was "no controversy about it in the college community."

"You laid down your shepherd's staff during a difficult time for the church in the United States, and a difficult time for you personally," said Msgr. Marcaccio during his remarks to Bishop Curlin at the dinner, "when a few of the people you love most — priests — had hurt other people you love most — children."



Bishop Curlin greets guests at the Grace Award dinner held in his honor at Belmont Abbey College April 24.

"Contrary to a very minority opinion, the fact remains our church is not in turmoil," said Msgr. Marcaccio. "Our church is wiser, more human and stronger because you have walked with us."

Nearly 200 people attended the dinner in the bishop's honor, including Bishop Leonard Bolick, Synod of North Carolina — Evangelical Lutheran Church in America; retired Bishop Michael C.D. McDaniel of the Lutheran Synod; and United Methodist Bishop Charlene Kammerer.

Bishop Robert H. Johnson, bishop of the Episcopal diocese of western North Carolina, was unable to attend the dinner but sent a letter of congratulations to Bishop Curlin.

"I am pleased to hear you are being honored. Know how much I have appreciated being in ministry together as brother bishops in this region," he said.

The Grace Award wasn't the first time Bishop Curlin was honored by Belmont Abbey College. Bishop Curlin, installed as the third bishop of Charlotte in April 1994, received an honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters during the 117th commencement ceremonies at the college in May 1995.

"For your compassionate ministry to the disadvantaged and hurting, and for your inspirational leadership and service to the church, Belmont Abbey College

confers upon you this day the degree of Doctor of Human Letters, honoris causa, with all its rights and privileges," read the citation presented to Bishop Curlin.

"In what is a rat race for so many, you walked with dignity and kindness, and you carried with you much



PHOTOS BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

Bishop William G. Curlin stands with (clockwise) Lutheran Bishop Leonard Bolick; retired Lutheran Bishop Michael C.D. McDaniel; and United Methodist Bishop Charlene Kammerer.

good," said Msgr. Marcaccio to the bishop. "And we wish all the best in the journey ahead."

Contact Acting Editor Kevin E. Murray by calling (704) 370-3334 or e-mail [kemurray@charlottediocese.org](mailto:kemurray@charlottediocese.org).

### Commenting on a shepherd

Following are excerpts of remarks made by speakers at the Grace Award dinner for Bishop Curlin.

"What you brought to us was an awareness of the Gospel's demand that we be sensitive to those — perhaps the most special brothers and sisters of Jesus — who are marginalized in our community, and you have raised the consciousness of western North Carolina to this by your own preaching and by your own dedication, particularly to the poor and to those suffering with AIDS," said Abbot Placid Solari, abbot of Belmont Abbey and chancellor of its college.

Abbot Solari also praised Bishop Curlin for arranging a visit by Mother Teresa to Charlotte in 1995, his dedication to his fellow priests and to Catholic education in the Diocese of Charlotte, and his "constant kindness and graciousness" toward the monastic community at Belmont Abbey.

"We're proud to offer you this award this evening ... and we want you to have no doubt whatsoever of our love and affection for you," said the abbot.

Mercy Sister Rosalind Picot, president of the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas Regional Community of North Carolina, recalled Bishop Curlin's annual visits for Christmas dinner with mentally retarded residents of Holy Angels, his visits with nuns in the hospital and his presence at celebrations of jubilee and profession.

"You have spoken to us time and time again ... about the need and importance of having a personal relationship with Jesus," she said. "You have taught us this, and more so, you live it."

Sister Rosalind said she would characterize Bishop Curlin with one word: Mercy. "I think that's the message you have given to the people and the church

of Charlotte these past nine years," she said. "On behalf of the Sisters of Mercy of North Carolina, I thank you for being our friend, our teacher and our bishop, and we love you."

Msgr. Anthony Marcaccio, pastor of St. Pius X Church in Greensboro, spoke of the nearly 240,000 miles of travel he logged with Bishop Curlin during his six years as priest secretary to the bishop.

"You loved being on the journey with the pilgrim church of western North Carolina, and this is why you are honored," he said.

When Msgr. Marcaccio became pastor of St. Pius X Church, he took with him nine loose-leaf binders filled with programs of various church dedications, parish center and school blessings, special liturgies for healing and AIDS, diocesan celebrations and others.

"These albums do not include the confirmations too great in number to count, or the regular commitments that you had as pastor of the cathedral," said Msgr. Marcaccio. "If someone was to ask me, 'Why honor Bishop Curlin?,' I might use those binders as testimony. And I would tell them that each time the bishop opened his mouth to preach, it was about God's mercy."

Msgr. Marcaccio recalled the numerous confirmations over which the bishop presided throughout the years.

"Ceremony upon ceremony, he would and continues to celebrate the sacrament with sincerity, reverence and enthusiasm that is greatly appreciated, and at times is contagious," he said.

"Bishop Curlin, you have been faithful in the pilgrimage of life, and this is why you are honored this evening," said Msgr. Marcaccio. "Thanks for bringing me along on the journey."

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# Eucharist greatest gift Christ gave church, pope says in encyclical

By CINDY WOODEN  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The Eucharist is the greatest gift Christ left his church, a gift that makes the sacrifice of his life present for all time and gives strength and hope to the world, Pope John Paul II wrote in a new encyclical letter.

The pope said he issued the letter, his 14th encyclical, in the 25th year of his papacy as a sign of his gratitude and with the desire to share his faith in the sacrament.

The letter, "Ecclesia de Eucharistia," on the Eucharist and its relationship to the church, was published April 17, Holy Thursday; the pope signed a copy of the encyclical during the evening Mass of the Lord's Supper.

In the letter, the pope reaffirmed the traditional teaching of the church on the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist, on the need for validly ordained ministers for its celebration, and on the importance of following the church's liturgical norms.

Pope John Paul said he had asked the Vatican offices responsible for sacraments and for doctrine "to prepare a more specific document, including prescriptions of a juridical nature," on the obligation to follow church rules for the celebration of Mass and adoration of the Eucharist.

A publication date for the second document was not announced.

The 82-year-old pope also used the encyclical to express how important the Eucharist has been in his life and to offer a reflection on the Blessed Virgin Mary, "woman of the Eucharist."

Whether in a grand basilica or a small country church, the pope said, "the Eucharist is always in some way celebrated on the altar of the world. It unites heaven and earth. It embraces and permeates all creation."

Christ's sacrifice on the cross — his offering of love to God the Father — embraces and redeems all creation and offers it back to God, the pope said.

"The church draws her life from Christ in the Eucharist; by him she is fed and by him she is enlightened," the pope wrote.

Pope John Paul said the Second Vatican Council led to a "more conscious, active and fruitful participation" in the Mass, but at the same time, "some abuses have occurred, leading to confusion with regard to sound faith and Catholic doctrine concerning this wonderful sacrament."

In some places, he said, eucharistic adoration has almost disappeared, and some people focus so much on its character as a "fraternal banquet" that they forget its sacrificial meaning.

The Mass, the pope said, "makes Christ's one, definitive redemptive sacrifice present in time" and allows people of all times to participate in it as if they had been in Jerusalem with Jesus.

"The Eucharist is too great a gift to tolerate ambiguity and depreciation," he said. Faithful observance of liturgical norms is "a guarantee of our love for Jesus Christ in the Blessed Sacrament."

While the pope said he has seen firsthand how beautifully local language, customs and culture can be incorporated into the Mass, creativity has sometimes been overemphasized.

"Liturgy is never anyone's private property, be it of the celebrant or of the community in which the mysteries are celebrated," he said.

The Eucharist and the church are so intimately connected, the pope said, that those who share the Eucharist must share the church's faith in the real presence of Christ and acknowledge the unity of faith as passed on and protected by the pope and the bishops in unity with him.

Regular eucharistic sharing with other Christians is a hope to be prayed for and a goal to work toward, but it is not a step on the way toward Christian unity, he said.

"If this treasure is not to be squandered, we need to respect the demands which derive from its being the sacrament of communion in faith and in apostolic succession," the pope wrote.

Pope John Paul reaffirmed church teaching that those who have committed a serious sin must go to confession before receiving Communion, but he also said people who are indifferent to the suffering of the poor are not worthy to partake of the sacrament.

In a chapter on the Blessed Virgin Mary and the Eucharist, Pope John Paul described Jesus' mother as "the first tabernacle in history," the vessel "in which the Son of God, still invisible to our human gaze, allowed himself to be adored by Elizabeth" as the pregnant Mary visited her cousin.

Mary's "yes" to the Incarnation and believers' "Amen" to receiving Christ in the Eucharist are analogous, he said.

The Gospels do not mention Mary as being with the disciples at the Last Supper, he said, but "Mary must have been present at the eucharistic celebrations of the first generation of Christians."

"For Mary, receiving the Eucharist must have somehow meant welcoming once more into her womb that heart which had beat in unison with hers and reliving what she had experienced at the foot of the cross," the pope wrote.

## DYC, from page 1

religious, thanks to the council's letters to their pastors in which they were thanked for their leadership and invited to the conference. Because of the response, the conference was able to offer the sacrament of Reconciliation several times throughout the weekend.

For Andy Ninse of Sacred Heart Church in Salisbury, the weekend's highlight was adoration on Saturday night.

"We shared faith stories, watched a skit and prayed," said Ninse. "It was nice to spend time in front of the Blessed Sacrament because I felt closer to God."

One workshop, "Purge Air: Hello No, Up We Go," related church teaching on purgatory to an airport, with purgatory being the place where one unloads his or her baggage. The workshop offered a Scriptural basis for the teaching and explained just because the word "purgatory" is not in the Bible does not make it invalid teaching, just as the word "Trinity" is not found in the Bible.

Connie Lindstrand from St. James Church in Hamlet believed the workshop would help young people answer questions about purgatory from their non-Catholic friends.

Seminarians for the Diocese of Charlotte presented a workshop on vocations.

"After hearing them, it made me at least consider the possibility of becoming a priest," said Kevin Burges of Sacred Heart Church in Salisbury.

Kelly Hart from St. John Newman in Charlotte said the workshop helped her to look at the ways God speaks to her through life situations, friends, prayer and even trials.

"It made sense that we won't be happy until we are following the path God has set out for us," she said.

Another workshop, "Rock Shocks," introduced the youth to contemporary Christian music and let participants draw whatever the music inspired in them.

"I loved all of it," said Elayne Castillo from St. Frances of Rome Church in Sparta, who said she learned Christian music always has a positive underlying message.

Pat Hoare, a seminarian, gave the final keynote address, "Resonating Christ in the World" Sunday morning. He challenged the youth to be holy, and defined holiness as the process of discovering who they really are — which is what God has planned for them.

Awards were also given out at the conference.

Recognizing outstanding youth service in 2003, the Bishop Begley Award was presented to Brandon Bates from St. Barnabas Church in Arden, and The Eagle and the Cross Award went to Kevin Webber from Sacred Heart Church in Salisbury.

Adult youth ministers were also recognized with the national youth ministry award, "For God and for Youth." Maryann Poli from St. Barnabas and Rev. Mr. Mike Langsdorf and his wife Mary from Holy Family Church in Clemmons were chosen for being constant sources of inspiration and guidance to the young people in their home parish and diocese.

Father Chris Gober, parochial vicar of St. Gabriel Church in Charlotte, celebrated the concluding Mass. During his homily, Father Gober spoke on Divine Mercy, as it was Divine Mercy Sunday.

"No matter what sin we commit, his (God's) mercy can overcome it. We only need to ask for mercy and be merciful to others," said Father Gober.

He advised the young people to stay close to Jesus, who "is the source of our peace and happiness."

At the end of the weekend, Paul Kotlowski, diocesan director of youth ministry, handed each of the youth a special sailor's knot called "the monkey fist" that is used to pull a vessel, full of precious cargo, safely into harbor.

"The string is a reminder that, just as Christ guides us safely into harbor, we are called to do the same for others," he said.

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The Catholic  
NEWS & HERALD



GOOD SHEPHERD,  
from page 1

tunity to serve the needs of the Catholics in this area," said Art Holleran, a parishioner since the parish's inception.

From humble beginnings

The parishioners held their first service in the King Moravian Church Sept. 19, 1981, and began using St. Elizabeth's Church in King during the fall of 1987.

"We were not originally assigned our own pastor because we were considered a mission parish," said Stoehr.

Good Shepherd, the only Catholic parish in Stokes County, was dedicated in November 1989 by then-Bishop John F. Donoghue as a mission of St. Benedict the Moor Church. The building could seat about 95 people, which became problematic as the parish grew over the years.

"We didn't have room for anything," said Father Hunt, who became pastor 13 years ago, shortly after the original Good Shepherd was dedicated.

Because that church was basically one room, "it was a very multipurpose place," said Father Hunt. "We had no meeting space."

"The overflow of people (at Mass) would go into the kitchen area, where the acoustics were bad," said David Boissey, a parishioner studying to be a



PHOTOS BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

Above: The new Good Shepherd Church now accommodates over 400 people. Top right: Bishop William G. Curlin, bishop emeritus, anoints the altar at the dedication ceremony April 28. Bottom right: Bishop Curlin sprinkles the congregation with holy water as a sign of repentance and as a reminder of their baptism, and to purify the walls and altar of the new church.

permanent deacon in the diocese. "A number of people would go to other parishes because we didn't have space."

"When holidays rolled around, we had to use the local elementary school gymnasium to accommodate everyone for Mass," said Stoehr.

"It was quite an ordeal getting everything from the church to the school," said Boissey. "We had to set up chairs and move the altar over there. It was a big effort."



Uniting for a common goal

The capital campaign for the new church began in 2000.

"Sometime around the end of 2001, plans were put forward," said Stoehr. "The diocese approved them in early 2002 and construction began as soon as weather permitted."

Construction was complete in October 2002. Bad weather delayed the original December dedication ceremony.

"It was a huge undertaking, but very exciting to grow to the next level," said Carl Brown, a parishioner since 1992.

"We built onto the existing facility,"

said Stoehr. "The original church is now the narthex to the new church."

The new Good Shepherd has four times the floor space, said Stoehr, and can accommodate over 400 people. The facility features two large classrooms that can also function as cry rooms. A balcony area houses the electronic equipment.

To stay within budget, the parish utilized materials from other churches.

"We found the Stations (of the Cross) in the attic of St. Benedict's," said Father Hunt. "The pews are from Holy Cross Church in Kernersville."

Father Hunt said 20 volunteers moved the pews on two tractor-trailer trucks. "It was a great parish operation," he said.

Working together for the common goal is commonplace at Good Shepherd.

"The people are very generous," said Boissey. "They're willing to jump in and help."

The altar, made by parishioner O.J. Carriegos, was crafted from lumber of a fallen tree in another parishioner's yard.

Parishioners have become involved in other areas of the church, as well. Boissey has seen a lot of "significant changes" since becoming a parishioner in 1994.

"We now have an adult education class that meets regularly. Our religious education classes have come a long way — all classes have doubled in size," said Boissey. "Our youth group is flourishing. We have a Knights of Columbus organization that's about three years old."

"The original builders of the church planted the seeds," he said. "The new people are helping them to flourish."

"Being a mission church, we didn't have the structure of a normal church," said Holleran. "Those take time, and the infrastructure is coming together."

A sense of pride

Eventually, the parish would like to build an education building and social hall, said Father Hunt. But the new church is still a welcome change from the days of overcrowded Masses.

"Now we have a more reverent, more prayerful atmosphere," he said.

"It's nice to have our own place," said Brown. "We're really a family that's grown together."

"There's a real sense of accomplishment for the people who have built this building," said Boissey. "They have a great sense of pride, and they certainly have something to be proud of."

Contact Acting Editor Kevin E. Murray by calling (704) 370-3334 or e-mail kemurray@charlottediocese.org.

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## Book Review

# Characters in these novels share a Catholic world view

*Novels take readers on journeys of faith*

REVIEWED BY GRAHAM G. YEARELY  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

Two recent novels, "In the River Sweet" by Patricia Henley and "The Miracle" by John L'Heureux, share a pleasant commonality. In both, Catholicism is the backdrop and Catholic teachings are the principal influence on the characters' decisions and actions. The church never becomes the object of scorn or abuse, unusual in a day when it has become the media's favorite whipping boy.

"In the River Sweet" centers on Ruth Ann Bond, a Midwestern wife and librarian whose life is upended when she receives an unexpected e-mail from her son, Tin Tran, whom she abandoned in Vietnam 30 years before. This son, the product of a passionate, youthful affair, is the secret Ruth Ann has never shared with anyone, including the husband she loves, Johnny.

The novel shifts between the present and the early days of the war — a journey that is not always smooth sailing for

were also absent, this omission complimented the Spartan style of his writing. But Henley is a lush writer and the lack of quotation marks becomes yet another obstacle to overcome in a jungle of words.

When her story travels to a Mass for a Vietnamese-American community or to a modern convent where training in centering prayer is offered, Henley shows an assurance and familiarity with Catholicism that makes for intriguing reading.

In the best of novels, the fictional community of characters takes on a life of its own; the author disappears. But "In the River Sweet," unfortunately, one can see the author's hand nudging the characters down paths she chooses, paths that are not always the most rewarding.

Meanwhile, "The Miracle" by John L'Heureux is a small miracle, filled with ideas and rich characterization. The plot focuses on Father Paul Le Blanc, exiled from metropolitan Boston to a small seaside parish, not because he is lazy or in disgrace, but because challenging (and possibly heretical) notions keep popping out of his mouth. In this parish of locals and summer people Father Le Blanc meets the pastor who is dying of ALS and is considered by many a saint; their thirtyish housekeeper and her teen daughter; and a troubled young woman returning to her childhood parish after years away.

When the "miracle" occurs early in the story, no one knows how to respond to it: Does one dismiss it as impossible or use it as a demonstration of God's extraordinary love? L'Heureux suggests, I think, that the dramatic miracles we yearn for as a proof of divine presence blind us to the smaller, but life-changing, wonders that occur every day. The church has rightly been wary of reported miracles, not because it doesn't believe God can perform them, but because miracles fly in the face of what Jesus said to Thomas in John 20:29: "Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed."

"The Miracle" asks interesting questions in a good, swiftly paced read. It is an ideal choice for Catholic book groups seeking a provocative, yet positive portrait of contemporary Catholicism, its priests and its laity.

*Yearley writes about theater, literature and religion in Baltimore.*



"In the River Sweet," by Patricia Henley. Pantheon Books/Random House (New York, 2002). 304 pp., \$24.00.

"The Miracle," by John L'Heureux. Grove/Atlantic Monthly Press (New York, 2002). 240 pp., \$24.00.

the reader. A poet as well as a novelist, Henley has remarkable descriptive powers; the reader can smell the streets of Saigon and taste the pad thai. But, all too often, the same reader can feel lost, unsure of where and when the story is taking place.

To add to the confusion, Henley has dropped quotation marks to set off dialogue. In a novel like "Plainsong" by Kent Haruf, where quotation marks

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## Word to Life

*Sunday Scripture Readings:  
May 4, 2003*

*May 4, Third Sunday of Easter*

**Cycle B Readings:**

- 1) Acts 3:13-15, 17-19  
Psalm 4:2, 4, 7-9
- 2) 1 John 2:1-5a
- 3) Gospel: Luke 24:35-48

**By DAN LUBY**

**CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE**

They weren't just startled. Anyone who saw — standing where an eye blink before there had been no one — a friend who'd died would be startled.

But Luke records in Sunday's Gospel reading that the disciples to whom Jesus appeared after his resurrection were startled and terrified. "They thought they were seeing a ghost."

Perhaps their fear arose partly because they had deserted Jesus in his hour of need. Don't ghosts come to haunt those who have wronged them in life? If they thought he was coming to avenge himself for their abandonment and cowardice, it made sense to be terrified.

But he was not — is not — a ghost; he's not some spiritual apparition occupying space only in the minds of those with overactive imaginations and guilty consciences.

In one of the most emphatically

unspiritual gestures imaginable, Jesus both soothes his friends' fears and demonstrates the reality of his risen body by asking for something to eat.

He has risen from the dead to bring not fear and judgment and well-deserved punishment, but amazement and peace and joy.

All too often our anticipation of a genuine face-to-face encounter with Jesus might lead us to fear. He knows even our most secret sins, the grudges we've embraced, the neighbors we've excluded, the seemingly endless times when we have put our own safety and comfort ahead of our friendship with him.

Fear like this stems from a common mistake, one we share with the disciples in the upper room: imagining Jesus' reactions to sin and betrayal as we would react (with cold and righteous fury).

The challenge of this story is to let go of the fearful expectations that seem to be our default mode. The amazing and joyful good news is that Jesus' mercy is infinitely greater than even our most faithless and selfish behavior.

### Questions:

What is one way in which an encounter with some physical reality (a sunset, a smile, a symbol) helped you to recognize the presence of the Lord? What is one fear that a deeper acceptance of the reality of Jesus' presence would help you to let go of?

## Weekly Scripture

**Scripture for the week of May 4 - May 10**

**Sunday (Third Sunday of Easter)**, Acts 3:13-15, 17-19, 1 John 2:1-5, Luke 24:35-48; **Monday**, Acts 6:8-15, John 6:22-29; **Tuesday**, Acts 7:51-8:1, John 6:30-35; **Wednesday**, Acts 8:1-8, John 6:35-40; **Thursday**, Acts 8:26-40, John 6:44-51; **Friday**, Acts 9:1-20, John 6:52-59; **Saturday (Bl. Damian de Veuster)**, Acts 9:31-42, John 6:60-69

**Scripture for the week of May 11 - May 17**

**Sunday (Fourth Sunday of Easter)**, Acts 4:8-12, 1 John 3:1-2, John 10:11-18; **Monday**, Acts 11:1-18, John 10:1-10; **Tuesday**, Acts 11:19-26, John 10:22-30; **Wednesday (St. Matthias)**, Acts 1:15-17, 20-26, John 15:9-17; **Thursday (St. Isidore)**, Acts 13:13-25, John 13:16-20; **Friday**, Acts 13:26-33, John 14:1-6; **Saturday**, Acts 13:44-52, John 14:7-14

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**THANK YOU! THANK YOU!  
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## 'Identity' isn't worth identifying

By GERRI PARE

CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

NEW YORK (CNS) — A reasonably talented cast is wasted in the bogus horror thriller, "Identity" (Columbia).

Reviving Agatha Christie's old and-then-there-were-none plot and numerous films that followed, the derivative tale finds a group of random individuals trapped by a raging storm in a seedy motel where one by one they meet violent deaths.

As the body count rises, so does the panic — not to mention the itchy trigger fingers.

For all the bizarre killings on parade, the resolution this time out is novel and still manages to be pathetic. If viewers who decide to fritter away their time on this film don't guess a number of the twists and double-crosses right away, they may still be put off by the contrived conclusion that renders the entire narrative absurd. Logic and common sense never check into this motel.

The ensemble cast includes John Cusack as a limo-driving ex-cop chauffeuring a prima-donna actress (Rebecca DeMornay) when he accidentally hits a

woman and heads with her husband and little son (John C. McGinley and Bret Loefer) to the nearby motel for help. The hapless manager (John Hawkes) says phones lines are down and all the roads flooded.

Soon other stranded strangers arrive, including a cop (Ray Liotta in the kind of role he could do handcuffed) transporting a killer convict (Jake Busey), a call girl (Amanda Peet) hoping to put her past behind her, and a newlywed couple (Clea DuVall and William Lee Scott).

Framing the story is another killer convict (Pruitt Taylor Vince) whose midnight hearing may lead to a last-minute stay of execution.

While the movie's dark, rain-slicked visuals are appropriately moody, plot holes soon envelop the narrative and diminish suspense, only to lead to an exasperating denouement.

Because of frequent violence, brief sexual innuendo, recurring profanity and much rough language, the USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-IV — adults, with reservations. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is R — restricted.



CNS PHOTO FROM UNITED ARTISTS

### Intrigue haunts 'City of Ghosts'

Matt Dillon stars in the movie "City of Ghosts" as a remorseful insurance scam artist who flees to Cambodia where his hardened boss (James Caan) and sneaky colleague (Stellan Skarsgard) involve him in a deadly scheme. The film is also co-written and directed by Dillon, who captures a seedy atmosphere of dangerous intrigue but too belatedly develops the interpersonal relationships that fuel his character's search for redemption. Intermittent violence, much rough language and minimal profanity. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-III — adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is R — restricted.

### Movie Capsules

NEW YORK (CNS) — The following are capsule reviews of movies recently reviewed by the Office for Film & Broadcasting of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

#### "Confidence" (Lions Gate)

Slick, shallow caper in which a tight-knit group of con men (led by Ed Burns) rips off a crime lord (Dustin Hoffman) so must agree to pull off a very dicey scam as repayment, despite a federal agent (Andy Garcia) closing in on them. Director James Foley's smug movie, with its crime-definitely-pays perspective, admires its brutal characters and seems most impressed with its own cleverness and cynical worldview. Some violence, brief nudity, seamy sexual situations, recurring profanities and constant rough language. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is O — morally offensive. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is R — restricted.

#### "It Runs in the Family" (MGM)

Pleasantly affecting serio-comedy about three dysfunctional generations of fathers and sons exploring the foibles and follies of life, love and parenting. Directed by Fred Schepisi, the on-screen chemistry of Tinseltown father-son combo Kirk and Michael Douglas facilitates the theme of reconciliation and family unity to emerge with emotional honesty despite the at times schmaltzy sentimentality of the narrative. Recurring drug abuse and sexual situations, as well as minimal vulgarities and an instance of rough language. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-III — adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13 — parents are strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.

#### "Manic" (IFC)

Provocative exploration of the troubled lives of adolescents in a juvenile mental institution. Though chock full of offensive language and violence, director Jordan Melamed's disturbingly raw film addresses important questions about abuse and alienation among today's youth. Recurring graphic violence and incessant rough and sexually explicit language as well as vulgarities. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-IV — adults, with reservations. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is R — restricted.

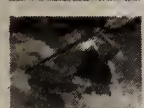
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## The Pope Speaks

POPE JOHN PAUL II

### Peace is gift that blossoms in heart, moves from there, pope says

By CINDY WOODEN  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — True peace is a gift that blossoms in the human heart and spreads from there, Pope John Paul II said during a general audience in St. Peter's Square, still adorned with flowers from his Easter morning Mass.

The first words spoken by Jesus to his disciples after the resurrection were "Peace be with you," the pope told an estimated 15,000 visitors gathered April 23 for the general audience.

"We can say that this expression, 'Peace be with you,' 'shalom' in Hebrew, contains and synthesizes in a certain way the whole Easter message," he said.

Peace is the gift offered to humanity through the death and resurrection of Jesus, the pope said.

Peace, he said, "is born from the profound renewal of the human heart. It is not the result of human efforts, nor can it be reached just through agreements between persons or institutions."

The gift of peace, Pope John Paul said, must be welcomed with generosity, guarded with care and made to bear fruit with responsibility.

"No matter how tormented situations are, nor how strong tensions and conflicts are, nothing can resist the effective renewal brought by the risen Christ," he said.

Through his death, the pope said, Christ has reconciled humanity with God and has provided the firm foundation for individuals to be reconciled with each other.

"In Christ, the fragile human being, yearning for happiness, has been ransomed from slavery to the evil one and to death," he said.

"Divine mercy opens the heart to forgiveness toward others, and it is with forgiveness given and received that peace is established within families and in every other sphere of life," he said.

After summarizing his remarks in English, the pope prayed that "through the intercession of Mary, mother of mercy and queen of peace, may we be strengthened in our role as true peacemakers, both in our own families and in the world."

### When things don't go as you planned

When teen-ager Jessica Lynch of Palestine, W.Va., joined the Army, she probably never seriously thought she might end up in Iraq. And when she got to Iraq she probably never imagined that the supply convoy of which she was a part would take a wrong turn and run into hostile fire, and that she'd be captured.

When Jessica Lynch was lying in a hospital in Iraq with two broken legs, a broken arm and gunshot wounds, as much as she hoped help would come there were probably lots of moments when she found it impossible to imagine that it could.

Life is like that. We plan and plan, we think we know what's going to happen, we know we've got our lives mapped out, but the truth is — we don't.

Sometimes the changes come in negative ways and sometimes in positive ways. Jessica Lynch's story shows us how that works: In a space of 10 days or so, she experienced both sides of unexpected change.

Ask any adults with a few decades of life behind them if their life now is exactly what they thought and planned it to be when they were 18. You might ask what their first major was in college and what they hoped to do with it, or what they foresaw for their career when they first entered the job market. Are they now doing what they thought they would?

Well, you might run across a few who are — who decided they were going to be doctors when they were 6 and stuck with it and never turned back, or who started off repairing cars out of high school and are still at it and still loving it.

But chances are you'll find lots of adults whose lives are completely different from what they had hoped or planned. They entered into a field or started a college major full of enthusiasm and then found out it wasn't what they expected. Or, somewhere along the way they got involved in a new activity that opened up new possibilities.

I once had a student who was very intensely pre-med, mostly because of her parents. In college, she started writing for the school newspaper, loved

## Coming of Age

AMY WELBORN  
CNS COLUMNIST



it and changed her major. She's now a journalist and very content.

You just never know.

Personal circumstances can intrude on your plans too. Sickness or injury can set you back. Money can run out. A family situation can distract you and readjust your priorities.

We're not saying you shouldn't make plans. Of course you should! It's really not a good thing to wake up every morning with no idea of what you're going to do next. And if you want to do important, serious things with your life that are going to make the world a better place, you have to plan, set goals and work very hard.

But you also have to be open and ready for the unexpected and to believe that God is present every moment, helping you cope and helping you figure out what to do next. These surprising events (or reactions) can either show you that the path you've chosen is the right one or can free you up to do something new and even better than you've planned.

Life, as Jessica Lynch discovered in a tougher way than most of the rest of us ever will, is full of the unexpected.

It's about the only thing in life you can be sure of — that you can never be sure what's going to happen next!

### Voicing a concern

Thank you W. Patrick Resen for your letter ("Incomplete caption," April 16) regarding former Senator Daniel Moynihan's funeral notice ("Funeral of Daniel P. Moynihan," April 4).

Why have so many "Catholic" democrats abandoned the truth concerning abortion? Is it simply to be politically correct?

I praise the bishops of Sacramento and Baltimore who have chastised their "Catholic" politicians for continuing to promote abortion and receive the Holy Eucharist — definitely inconsistent behavior. These holy bishops urge them to be faithful to church teaching regarding respect for life. My wish is for all bishops of all dioceses to have the voice and courage to publicly state the same.

Outraged by Catholic pro-abortion politicians, we faithful Catholics have the power to vote them out of office. Let's do it.

Shirley Williams  
Sky Valley, Ga.

## Letters to the Editor

### War perspectives

It's unfortunate that Joanita Nellenbach was as transparent as she was in her "just war" story ("It's war, but is it just?" April 11). Obviously, any war is one of the last avenues to take to resolve anything.

There's a reason why the pope has not specifically condemned the United States in the Iraq war. It's likely he knows Saddam Hussein and his past practices are evil, and that they must be stopped. Evidence exists that does show that Hussein had weapons of mass destruction, and what he planned on doing with them.

All conditions of a just war have been met, with most of the Iraqis likely agreeing. It has been shown Hussein has been directly involved with Al-Qaida and 9/11. It's too bad others have not seen the same evidence. President George W. Bush's job is to stop Americans from being killed. It just turns out that he has likely stopped thousands of other non-Americans from being killed as well.

Kevin Roeten  
Asheville

**Editor's Note:** Joanita Nellenbach's coverage of the "War: Causes, Justifications, Consequences and Alternatives" workshop in Maggie Valley was a story involving discussions on the topic of war. Nellenbach's opinions were not included in the story.

According to Catholic News Service, the pope has been voicing his strong opposition to a pre-emptive war on Iraq for months before war began, and has made numerous public pleas for peace since. In March, the pope sent a personal envoy to meet with President Bush to urge that the Iraqi crisis be solved peacefully through the United Nations.

### Letters to the Editor

The Catholic News & Herald welcomes letters from readers. We ask that letters be originals of 250 words or less.

To be considered for publication, each letter must include the name, address and phone number of the writer for purpose of verification. Letters may be condensed due to space limitations and edited for clarity, style and taste.

Send letters to Letters to Editor, The Catholic News & Herald, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, N.C. 28237, or e-mail catholicnews@charlottediocese.org.





## Light One Candle

MSGR. JIM LISANTE  
GUEST COLUMNIST

### Making the call

When people fight, sometimes they have legitimate reasons, but often, it's hard to justify. Some of the worst battles happen not between strangers, but within our own families and among our closest friends.

When people bring these conflicts to priests or other spiritual counselors, we often stress reconciliation. We make the case for forgiveness and for putting aside past hurts and moving forward in a positive way. Yet that advice isn't offered on an exactly even basis. In other words, you may be mostly right and others may be mostly wrong — but that's not the point. Reconciliation will never happen if we wait for everything to be completely fair. The purpose of peacemaking is to see beyond who's right or wrong to the virtue of forgiving, the past and walking together into a more loving future.

For most of us, starting out is the toughest part. Making the first call to that someone with whom we're angry can be very tough. All our defenses rear their troublesome heads. We have our pride, and we're afraid of looking weak. We're concerned that the person on the other side won't respond in kind. We think that maybe it's better to leave bad enough alone. We think, "Why do I have to make the first gesture?" All those feelings can leave us unwilling to be vulnerable enough to put aside the fear of embarrassment and just do it.

Yes, there are risks. We might be rejected. We might

renew the argument. We might feel like nothing was accomplished. But we can at least know that we tried to be peacemakers — tried, in our own small way, to make the world just a little less hostile, a little more fully a place where people can live in peace.

This topic often makes me think of someone that none of us should forget. His name was Anwar Sadat. He served as the president of Egypt. For most of his adult life, he voiced the distrust and dislike for Israel that was common in Arab circles. But after years of hatred, war and bloodshed, after too many people were left widows and orphans, he decided he had to do something. In a bold move, he announced that he would go to Jerusalem in search of peace with his enemies. And so he did. It was an amazing historic visit that caused walls of misunderstanding to fall. It gave a world set in the ways of animosity and revenge a hint of hope. It was the right thing to do. And it cost him.

Some radical fundamentalists saw Sadat's action as betrayal. Peace to them meant unwelcome compromise. And so the forces of hate moved against him and this instrument of peace was assassinated.

Anwar Sadat died in 1981. But he had given his life for reconciliation and today remains a beacon of hope — someone who dared to make the first move so others might live in peace. Few recall the people who stilled his brave voice, but history will long remember the man who welcomed the possibility of peace.

You and I will probably never effect change on such an international stage. But in workplaces and schools, at home and in our neighborhood, we, too, have opportunities and choices. We can stay locked in combat or not. We can leave the situation status quo or we can pick up the phone, pick up the pen, knock on the door and say that we want to try again. We can want peace more than we want to have our own way or nothing. We need to know that, at the very least, we tried to make a difference for the better.

Who in your life needs you to take the first step for peace and reconciliation? There's no time like the present and there's no one who can make it happen just the way you can.

### Cross and crucifix: What's the difference?

*Q. Is there a difference between a cross and a crucifix? Some news articles today seem to imply they are the same. I have two crosses with jeweled centers. They are not blessed, but I treasure them and wear them respectfully. Are these types of crosses authentic religious symbols? (Indiana)*

A. Dictionaries generally distinguish between the two, identifying a crucifix as a representation of the crucified Christ placed on a cross. For most people, I believe, this is the common distinction.

The crosses you have are certainly valid religious symbols. In fact the use of this type of cross goes back many centuries.

The Christian practice of portraying the body of Christ on the cross began relatively late in the history of the church, about 700 years ago.

During the first 600 years or so after Jesus' death and resurrection, crosses bearing the image of his body were rare. The conviction that the crucifixion of Christ was part of the whole paschal mystery, his passage through death to a new risen life, was so ingrained in the church that the two events were usually symbolically combined in Christian art.

In the fifth and sixth centuries, for example, crosses were adorned, sometimes with precious jewels, to convey that Easter symbolism. Even later, when the body of Christ began to appear more frequently on crosses, it was often the risen living Lord who was shown.

Around the 1200s, the suffering and painful death of our Lord became more central in Christian theology and spirituality. Crucifixes graphically displaying the afflicted Christ began to be popular and were used almost exclusively in Catholic piety for hundreds of years.

With today's renewed awareness of the resurrection and its central place, along with the death of Christ, in the history of salvation, something like jeweled crosses and crucifixes with the image of the risen, glorious Christ are seen more and more in Catholic churches, homes and institutions.

## Question Corner

FATHER JOHN DIETZEN  
CNS COLUMNIST



All these forms are authentic and in accord with Christian tradition.

So your crosses are, so to speak, well in style. They can be a rich source of spiritual benefit when worn thoughtfully and prayerfully.

*Please ask her to arrange to talk with her pastor or another priest she has confidence in, and explain what has happened in her life. A knowledgeable priest should be able to help her one way or another.*

*A free brochure answering questions Catholics ask about the sacrament of penance is available by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope to Father John Dietzen, Box 325, Peoria, IL 61651.*

*Questions may be sent to Father Dietzen at the same address, or e-mail: [jjdietzen@aol.com](mailto:jjdietzen@aol.com).*

## Parish Diary



FATHER PETER J. DALY  
CNS COLUMNIST

### "Snake bit" either way you jump

In our consumer society, it is not surprising that many people have come to think of the sacraments as just another service they "consume." They think they should be able to just call up and "reserve" the church for a wedding or "book" a baptism.

Some people have little or no sense that their participation in the sacraments should reflect their commitment of faith and connection to the faith community.

People often want the sacraments for cultural reasons rather than religious ones. They may even have been raised Catholics. They often say they don't like "organized religion." (I always tell them that is no problem for me because our parish is anything but organized.)

This creates a lot of problems for priests, deacons and lay leaders who are trying to prepare people for the sacraments. The biggest problems usually come at the cultural touchstones of birth, marriage and death. Hatching, matching and dispatching, as the Anglicans say.

A woman wants her child baptized. She has chosen godparents who were raised Catholic but have left the Catholic Church to become Baptists. "They are very good Baptists, Father," she says. She thinks I am unreasonable to require that one godparent be a believing Catholic. She does not see why someone who has rejected the Catholic Church cannot sponsor someone into it.

The mother of the bride calls. Neither her daughter nor her future son-in-law practices the faith. He has a child from another union. Like most couples these days, they are living together. Mom reminds me that the future bride "did go to CCD here" when she "made her sacraments." Bride would like a wedding on a pier by the water, not in church. She sees no reason for much "religious stuff" at her wedding but "does not object to a Catholic priest." Mother wants to be sure daughter is married "in the eyes of the church."

Children of a devout parishioner call for a funeral. Their deceased mother was a daily communicant, but none of her children goes to church. They do not want a "formal" funeral, meaning no funeral Mass. They had their mother cremated against her wishes. Now they want to spread her ashes on the water, although our local bishop forbids that. They want to know if I will come and "say a few words" in the garden before they scatter her on the bay. They do not see why the order of the local bishop should be a problem for me.

These are all real situations. Any priest or deacon could tell you thousands more like them. There are no easy answers. As they say in Virginia, "either way you jump, you are snake bit."

Whatever we do, we should invite them into the Catholic faith and call them to conversion of heart. Just how is not always clear.



# CCHS seniors rake in scholarships, awards

CHARLOTTE — Following is a list of Charlotte Catholic High School seniors who were recently awarded scholarships and awards.

Senior Robert Alexander Jr. has been awarded the Colorado School of Mines President's Scholarship, a Rutgers University Merit Award and named a Dean's Scholar to Lehigh University. Alexander is the son of Robert and Diane Alexander of Charlotte.

Senior Erica Cloer has been selected to receive the William Richardson Davie Scholarship to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Cloer is the daughter of John and Yongsook Cloer of Charlotte.

Senior Kristen Galli has been awarded the Pamplin College of Business Merit Scholarship to Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. Galli is the daughter of Richard and Deborah Galli of Charlotte.

Senior Brett Harrison has been offered an appointment to the United States Naval Academy. Harrison is the son of Michael and Carol Harrison of Charlotte.

Senior Kathleen Hoefling has been awarded the Leadership Award, Parish Scholarship and Alumni Scholarship to The Catholic University of America. Hoefling is the daughter of Richard and Diane Hoefling of Charlotte.

Senior Sarah Immel has been selected to receive the McKissick Scholarship Award from the University of South Carolina. Immel is the daughter of Stephen and Cynthia Immel of Charlotte.

Senior Andrew Kelso has been designated a Dean's Scholarship at Gettysburg College and a Presidential Scholar at Franklin & Marshall College. Kelso is the son of Mark and Patricia Kelso of Charlotte.

Senior Brian Lux has been awarded a St. Bona Merit Award and a St. Bona Merit Resident Award to St. Bonaventure University. Lux is the son of Gerard and Julie Lux of Charlotte.

Senior Kathryn McCullough has been selected to receive a McKissick Scholars Award to the University of South Carolina. McCullough is the daughter of Joseph and Lauren McCullough of Charlotte.

Senior Caroline McLaughlin has been awarded a Gramley Leadership and Service Scholarship to Salem College. McLaughlin is the daughter of Robert and Allison McLaughlin of Charlotte.

Senior Stephanie Miller has been awarded the Queens Achievement Award to Queens University of Charlotte. Miller is the daughter of Glenn and Susan Miller of Charlotte.

Senior Andrew Rebhan has been awarded a Lees-McRae College Scholarship. Rebhan is the son of James and Kathleen Rebhan of Charlotte.

Senior Mary Rebovich has been awarded a College of Textiles NCTF Scholarship to North Carolina State University. Rebovich is the daughter of Richard and Elizabeth Rebovich of Charlotte.

Senior Jennifer Romano has been selected as a North Carolina Teaching Fellows Award recipient at Elon University. Romano is the daughter of John and Debbie Romano of Matthews.

Senior Christine Schmidlin has been awarded a Belmont Abbey College Scholarship. Schmidlin is the daughter of Michael and Micheline Schmidlin of Gastonia.

Senior Catherine Ta has been awarded a George Edgar Merrick Scholarship from the University of Miami. Ta is the daughter of Nang and Luu Ta of Charlotte.

Senior Courtney Tighe has been awarded the Carolina Scholars award from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Tighe is the daughter of John and Kristie Tighe of Charlotte.

Senior Lindsey Tighe has been awarded an Academic Scholarship to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and has been named a James Monroe Scholarship at The College of William & Mary. Tighe is the

daughter of John and Kristie Tighe of Charlotte.

Senior Ryan Vargochik has been awarded an academic scholarship to Clemson University. Vargochik is the son of Louis and Barbara Vargochik of Charlotte.

Senior Michael Wallace has been awarded a Presidential Academic Scholarship to Marymount University. Wallace is the son of Robert and

Deborah Wallace of Charlotte.

Senior Dana Weis has been awarded the Founders Merit Scholarship and the Provost Merit Scholarship to Duquesne University. Weis is the daughter of Dennis and Barbara Weis of Charlotte.

Senior Kelly Whittaker has been named a Loyola University New Orleans Scholar and has been awarded the McKissick Scholars Award from the University of South Carolina. Whittaker is the daughter of Dennis and Karen Whittaker of Charlotte.

## DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRY

**St. Leo the Great Catholic Church located in beautiful Winston-Salem** is searching for a youth minister to continue an established Life Teen program centered on the Eucharist. We are seeking an enthusiastic, passionate, faith-filled individual to direct young people toward a meaningful, life-affirming journey with Christ.

If you are a Catholic with a college degree, have a strong spiritual, faith-based background, a passion for working with youth, and at least two years of practical experience as a youth minister, please consider this opportunity.

The Life Teen Mass is every Sunday at 5PM during the school year. Our awesome Life Teen band leads Praise and Worship songs, many original. We have a dedicated Core Team made up of singles and couples and a committed group of parent volunteers. Most important, however, are the 150 (and growing) young people who participate in our Spirit Night (Jr. Youth), Life Night (Sr. Youth), other activities and retreats. Also, recent additions to the Family Life Center feature a room dedicated to its youth, a Youth Minister's office, kitchenette and entertainment center.

The starting salary is competitive and negotiable depending on education and/or experience. Attractive benefit package, too. Please contact Jerry Felten, Director of Parish Operations, St. Leo the Great Catholic Church, 335 Springdale Avenue, Winston-Salem, N.C. 27104.

Phone: 336-724-0561. Fax: 336-724-7036.

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## Principal - St. Raphael School

St. Raphael Catholic School, a Jesuit-affiliated elementary school, is seeking an enthusiastic and motivated leader for our community, beginning July 1, 2003. We are a SACS accredited, double track K - 8 school, with a projected enrollment of 450 students, housed in a brand new facility including a computer lab, media center, and science lab. Our principal must have the passion and leadership ability to help us continue to foster our commitment to academic excellence. The successful candidate must be a practicing Catholic and hold a master's degree, with at least three years' experience in teaching, school leadership, or administrative management. Applicants should hold, or be eligible to hold, a North Carolina Principal's Certificate.

If you are interested in joining our dedicated staff and talented student body, send by May 15th a letter of interest, current resume, and salary requirements to Saint Raphael Catholic School Search Committee, 5801 Falls of Neuse Road, Raleigh, NC 27609, or by fax to 919-865-5751, or via email to [mdelacourt@nc.rr.com](mailto:mdelacourt@nc.rr.com).

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# Bringing cultures together

## Parishioners work with ESL students

By FATHER JOSEPH W. MACK  
SPECIAL TO THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD  
ASHEBORO — Four masses each weekend, two in Spanish and two in English — it's a more common situation in Catholic churches of North Carolina than in times past. The Sunday Masses at St. Joseph Church, for example, see almost 600 Hispanic parishioners.

Due to language and cultural barriers, the Hispanic and English-speaking communities coexist but almost never mix. This is true in the church community as well.

In October, St. Joseph Church held a retreat sponsored by the Glenmary Missioners that inspired parish members to find ways of bridging the gap between the church and its Hispanic community.

One parishioner, Dr. Joy McLaughlin, director of the English as a Second Language (ESL) program for the Asheboro City School District saw the possibility for outreach to the ESL students at Donna Lee Loflin Elementary School, located across the street from the church.

"These students have difficulty doing their homework because their parents cannot help them due to the language barrier," said McLaughlin.

After raising the issue to members of the parish, 47 volunteers — from teenagers to seniors — came forward to create an after-school program for Hispanic youth. To prepare for their work, volunteers completed five hours of training provided by McLaughlin and the Diocese of Charlotte.

In February, the program began with the 47 volunteers helping 54 students with limited English proficiency with their homework each



COURTESY PHOTO

Karina Hernandez, Pam Cooper, Gabriel Luna-Sanchez, Olga Martinez, Fidel Benitez and Vanessa Cruz participate in St. Joseph Church's volunteer after-school tutoring program for English as a Second Language students at Donna Lee Loflin Elementary School in Asheboro.

Tuesday and Thursday after school in the church.

Only three of the volunteers speak Spanish. Two of the children are Chinese. Yet this is not an obstacle to the volunteers, because they speak a universal language — the love of children and helping them to succeed.

The volunteers have taken responsibility for various aspects of the program. One volunteer coordinates after-school snacks for the students; another comes at the end of the day to vacuum and clean. Others tutor the children in small groups. All have made contributions toward making the program work with one purpose in mind: serving the children.

The enthusiasm of students, teachers and volunteers has been evident and heartwarming. There is something very touching about watching the children as they form a long line and make their way from the school to the church. You can see the excitement in their faces as they approach the church building led by their ESL teacher, Pam Clinard, and her assistant, Marilu Arellano.

Clinard said the children talk about their tutors all the time at school and look forward to their time with them. The elementary school

teachers report the children are doing much better in class, and that the time spent with the volunteers really helps them keep up with their English-speaking peers.

This past week, the program expanded to include parents who want to learn English. Each Tuesday and Thursday, a group of parents attend ESL classes so that they can work more effectively with their children. Randolph Community College's Continuing Education Division coordinates this effort.

The program has been successful because of the commitment of the volunteers and their hard work.

There will be a special Cinco de Mayo celebration the first week in May for the parents of the ESL children at the school, and the tutors will be special guests to thank them for their efforts. Tutors will receive special recognition as well as certificates.

As far as plans for the future are concerned, this is only the beginning of the parish's efforts to build a bridge between cultures through the outreach of committed individuals doing the work of Christ in the community.

Father Joseph W. Mack is pastor of St. Joseph Church in Asheboro.

# Mercy Sister Mary Josita dies at 92



Nun remembered for her kindness, compassion

BELMONT - Mercy Sister Josita Shaw, 92, died April 18, 2003 at Marian Center at Sacred Heart Convent. She was received as a Sister of Mercy on Feb. 2, 1936, and was in her 67th year as a Sister of Mercy.

A Mass of Christian burial was held April 22 at the Cardinal Gibbons Chapel, with burial following at Belmont Abbey Cemetery.

Sister Mary Josita was born April 22, 1910, in New York. Her secular name was Virginia Cecilia Shaw; she took the name Sister Mary Josita upon entering the Sisters of Mercy on July 27, 1935.

She began her ministerial service in the parochial schools at Newton Grove and at Nazareth Orphanage in Raleigh. In 1938, Sister Mary Josita was assigned to the dietary department at Mercy Hospital in Charlotte, and she remained there until 1947. From Mercy Hospital, Sister Mary Josita was assigned to the dietary department at St. Joseph's Hospital in Asheville and remained there for 23 years.


Never one to let any grass grow under her capable feet, Sister Mary Josita began her ministry to community upon her return to Belmont, where she served as a receptionist until 1997. During those years, her sweet smile and pleasant demeanor welcomed many a first-time visitor to Sacred Heart Convent.

However, once she left that position, she wasn't ready for retirement. She plunged full force into prayer ministry, which she continued until the time of her death.

Sister Mary Josita is best remembered for her almost every-present smile, her kindness and compassion. She was an avid reader and a lover of "classic" movies. A very prayerful woman, she began and ended each day in the chapel.

Sister Mary Josita is the daughter of the late William Shaw and Margaret Finnegan Shaw. A sister, Honora Shaw Strom of New Port Richey, Fla., survives her.

Memorials may be made to the Sisters of Mercy, Sacred Heart Convent, 100 Mercy Drive, Belmont, N.C. 28012-4805.



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# Sister of Mercy shares ministry through teaching, counseling

By MARY MARSHALL  
CORRESPONDENT

BELMONT — "When I think of the opportunities I've had, God has truly blessed me," said Mercy Sister Carolyn Mary Coll. "For me, the call came from God — this is the way he asked me to live my life. I try to keep my focus on him first and my community life helps me do that."

Sister Carolyn Mary grew up in Philadelphia in a strong Catholic family, and she was taught by Sisters of St. Joseph in parish schools until the eighth grade. The next five years were spent as a resident and student at St. Joseph's Academy in McSherrystown, Penn.

"These were some of the best years of my life," said Sister Carolyn Mary.

Following graduation, she traveled south to Sacred Heart College in Belmont, and in 1967, during her sophomore year, entered the Sisters of Mercy.

"The Sisters of Mercy order was much smaller than the Sisters of St. Joseph," said Sister Carolyn Mary. "This appealed to me as did the mission of their foundress, Catherine McAuley, along with the friendliness, hospitality and welcoming characteristics of the order."

Sister Carolyn Mary's teaching career began just two years later and would eventually take her to various parts of the country. Her superior, the late Mother Mary Benignus Hoban, commented that Sister Carolyn Mary adapted easily, thus the many different assignments. Sister Carolyn Mary took her final vows in 1975.

Her initial assignment was to St. Michael School in Gastonia, where the young novice entered a classroom of 38 third-graders, some of whom now have children of their own in her classes.

Her next calling was as a third- and fourth-grade teacher in Long Island, N.Y. Three years later, she returned to St. Michael to teach fourth grade and religion and music to the junior high students.

When the next school term began, she was at St. Patrick School in Charlotte and a year later at Our Lady of Lourdes in Raleigh. With the intention of completing her education, she headed to Belmont only to be reassigned to St. Mary School in Wilmington.

Completing her degree in education with a minor in music at Sacred Heart College in 1978, she returned to St. Michael in Gastonia as the director of religious education and youth ministry. For the next three years, she ministered in the parish and school, spending her summers at LaSalle University in Philadelphia where she earned a master's

in pastoral ministry with concentrations in theology and ministry. Sister Carolyn Mary was exposed to many new ideas, which she in turn brought to St. Michael.

She then worked with Mercy Sister Jeanne Marie Kienast in the diocesan faith formation office, where she served as an adolescent catechetical consultant and as liaison to the diocesan youth ministry office.

"Through the generosity of Father William Murphy, who started St. Margaret Parish in Maggie Valley, and a grant, I was able to attend Shalem Institute for Spiritual Formation to study spiritual direction," said Sister Carolyn Mary. "The program consisted of a two-year at-home study with spiritual mentors and two weeks each summer at the Institute. I completed this study in 1987."

In 1987, she was named Tampa/St. Petersburg's diocesan director of youth and young adults, and became their first full-time director. A year later, she returned to the Diocese of Charlotte as director of the Office of Youth Ministry at the invitation of Bishop John F. Donoghue, then-bishop of Charlotte.

For the next several years, in addition

to her ministries, Sister Carolyn Mary became caregiver for several of her family members.

"The Sisters of Mercy, the members of the diocesan office, and the diocesan youth ministers and youth became my supportive community," she said. "I shall always be grateful for their caring responses."

With a desire to continue her education, in 1991 she began studying at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill for her master's in social work, focusing on mental health. She was also named liturgist and family life coordinator at St. Michael Church; she traveled to Chapel Hill several days a week to attend classes.

Sister Carolyn Mary completed her degree in 1995 and became a licensed clinical social worker. Today, she continues to serve at St. Michael as director of faith formation and a counselor. Since 1996, she has been a part-time counselor at Belmont Abbey College.

"St. Michael Parish in Gastonia, where I have spent so many years of my life, has become my home away from home," said Sister Carolyn Mary. "A lot of women in the parish have served as witnesses of faith to me. My vocation has been enriched through my communal living and the witness of the people I work among."

"I've found a rich spirituality within the Sisters of Mercy," she said. "When they are approached about a need of the people, they respond as Catherine McAuley would have wanted; for as our foundress reminded us, 'this is why we are called Sisters of Mercy.'"



Mercy Sister  
Carolyn Mary Coll

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Psalms 118: 26,28-29

# The Catholic

## NEWS & HERALD

Honoring Mary  
on Mother's Day

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MAY 9, 2003

SERVING CATHOLICS IN WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA IN THE DIOCESE OF CHARLOTTE

VOLUME 12 No 32

## Bishops of the South issue second criminal justice pastoral statement

*Catholic leaders question for-profit prisons*

By KEVIN E. MURRAY

ACTING EDITOR

MARTIN, Ky. — The Catholic Bishops of the South have issued a pastoral statement calling for an end to all for-profit private prisons.

Approved December 2002 by the 43 bishop-members of the Catholic Committee of the South, the new pastoral statement entitled "Wardens from Wall Street: Prison Privatization" is the second of six on the criminal justice process. The document revisits the November 2000 national statement by the U.S. Catholic Bishops, "Responsibility, Rehabilitation, and Restoration: A Catholic Perspective on Crime and Criminal Justice."

"Because the criminal justice system is so integral to our way of life in the United States, we must make every effort to identify areas of weakness and strive to make improvements where possible," said Msgr. Mauricio W. West, diocesan administrator of the Diocese of Charlotte, who signed the document.

"We bishops question whether private, for-profit corporations can effectively run prisons," said the Bishops of the South in the document. "The profit motive may lead to reduced efforts to change behaviors, treat substance abuse and offer skills necessary for reintegration into the community."

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## PAROCHIAL PATRIOTISM



PHOTOS BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

Left: Maggie Ferris, a fourth-grader at All Saints School in Charlotte, crafts an American flag to send to U.S. troops overseas. Above: All Saints School students write and color cards and letters to support U.S. servicemen and women in Iraq.

## Pitching in from the home front

*Students write letters, offer prayers of support for troops*

By KAREN A. EVANS

STAFF WRITER

CHARLOTTE — Students at schools from across the Diocese of Charlotte are doing their part to support the troops in a variety of ways.

Students at All Saints School in Charlotte wrote letters and sent a care package to a classmate's father overseas for him to distribute to his fellow servicemen.

"At their age, it's easy to take too much for granted," Principal Betsy DesNoyer said of the students.

"You want them to have a patriotic sense and to know the freedoms we have

are not free, and to extend hospitality to those who are far away from their families and to let them know we appreciate them," she said.

Students at Immaculate Heart of Mary School in High Point are also preparing care packages for soldiers, as well as praying, e-mailing and sending cards to a teacher's brother who is in the armed services.

Soldiers on the front can't receive care packages now, Principal Ned Forney said. When the situation in Iraq is more stable, classes will start mailing packages.

Every morning, Immaculate Heart of Mary

students gather at the flagpole and pray for the soldiers before reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

"Prayer is the best thing we can do for them," said Forney, a former captain in the Marine Corps.

Immaculate School in Hendersonville students are also praying for the troops who are "in harm's way and fighting for principles of democracy," Principal William Meehan said.

The school has a bulletin board displaying the names of students' family members serving overseas, he said.

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## Sacramental Life

## Marriage: Ceremony or Sacrament?

By KAREN A. EVANS  
STAFF WRITER

*Editor's Note: This is the first installment in an on-going series on the seven sacraments.*

CHARLOTTE — The young bride glides down the aisle in her new white gown. The excited groom waits at the altar, fidgeting in his rented tuxedo. An hour later they are married and head off to their sit-down dinner reception for 300, followed by a Caribbean honeymoon.

So what comes next? If they are Catholic, they are prepared. They have gone through one-on-one sessions with their priest, prayed for God's guidance and spent a day or more in a workshop exploring their views on money, children and communication.

Why so much effort? Because the Catholic Church views marriage as a sacred and permanent bond between two people — brought together by God — it attempts to make sure engaged couples should be marrying in the first place and then gives them the skills to make their marriage strong and everlasting.

Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) states that "The matrimonial covenant, by which a man and a woman establish between themselves a partnership of the whole of life, is by its nature ordered toward the good of the spouses and the procreation and education of offspring; this covenant between baptized persons has been raised by Christ the Lord

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### Speakers: Legacy of pre-emptive force ought to be factor in its use

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The use of "preventive force" such as the U.S. invasion of Iraq ought to be evaluated from the perspective of what sort of legacy it leaves and viewed in light of the post-9/11 stress the nation is undergoing, according to two speakers at a theology and public policy forum. "While a doctrine of preventive war may derive in part from an ethic of responsibility — to protect ourselves and the world from catastrophic attacks — it also has elements of an ethic of fear," said Gerry Powers, director of the Office of International Justice and Peace at the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

That "ethic of fear" comes from the understandable preoccupation of the people of the United States with their own fears and vulnerabilities in the face of global terrorism, said Powers at a May 1 colloquium on the ethical issues of pre-emptive war hosted by Wesley Theological Seminary and its Churches' Center for Theology and Public Policy. But those post-Sept. 11, 2001, fears are leading the nation to embrace a formula of instilling fear of the United States as a protection from catastrophic attacks that echoes the philosophy of the brutal Roman emperor Caligula: "Let them hate us if they will, provided only that they fear us," he said. "That formula might work for the New York Yankees, but it did not work for the Romans and it will not work for us," Powers said. "It will not work because it creates a cycle of fear that fuels a cycle of violence."

### 'Prudent politics' needed for embryo research ban, says ethicist

WASHINGTON (CNS) — A "prudent politics of the embryo" that defends the morally sacrosanct status of human embryos but legally allows limited medical research is needed, said a consultant to the President Bush's Advisory Council on Bioethics. A compromise is needed because it is virtually impossible for the federal government to completely prevent embryonic research, said the



CNS PHOTO FROM REUTERS

### Homeless children sleep on street in Calcutta

Homeless children sleep on a roadside in Calcutta, India, May 6. More than 1.2 million destitute, homeless or orphaned children in India beg on the streets or work up to 18 hours a day in quarries, restaurants and factories.

consultor, Eric Cohen.

He proposed a federal law that would ban research "on nascent human life beyond 14 days of development." Such a compromise would block worse horrors in the name of health such as experimentation on human fetuses, said Cohen. The compromise would build on President Bush's decision limiting federal funding of embryonic stem-cell research to existing lines, he said in a May 1 speech at the Ethics and Public Policy Center, an independent think tank in Washington. The legislation would not federally endorse, fund or license "the evil — early-stage embryo re-

search — that we cannot likely stop, at least not at the federal level," he said.

### CRS official cites security concerns in Baghdad, need for medical aid

BAGHDAD, Iraq (CNS) — The security situation in Baghdad remains a concern despite recent signs of progress, said a Catholic Relief Services official. "We have received reports that there are signs of improvement being made and that people here have seen some sort of progress," said Christine Tucker, CRS regional director for the Middle East and North Africa, who arrived

in Iraq May 3 as part of a Caritas Internationalis humanitarian aid convoy.

In a telephone interview, she said people remained concerned and tense about the security situation in Iraq. "In essence the country went through an earthquake ... people are wondering what happened — and what tomorrow will be like," Tucker said. She said because of concerns about looting, the convoy had coordinated with the U.S. and British military's Humanitarian Assistance Coordination Office in Amman, Jordan, before leaving for Iraq. The convoy crossed the border without incident and, as a security precaution, joined vehicles from other organizations as it approached, she said. Tucker said the supplies reached the Caritas warehouse in Baghdad by May 4 and were to be distributed to Caritas centers throughout Iraq.

### Rest, therapy 'rejuvenate' pope for trips in 2003, spokesman says

MADRID, Spain (CNS) — After staying home for nine months, Pope John Paul II opened his 2003 travel schedule with a short trip to Spain. Joaquin Navarro-Valls, Vatican spokesman, said May 4 that the pope was "rejuvenated" by rest and physical therapy. The pope's speech, which had been slurred and becoming more and more difficult to understand, has shown marked improvement since September.

And once again, especially when meeting with young people, his public gatherings were peppered with impromptu remarks and quips in response to cheers. But the pontiff, who will turn 83 May 18, has great difficulty walking even a few steps and stands only when he has something to lean on: either a lectern or the railing of the moving platform aides push in liturgical processions and in getting him to and from the airplane. The Spain trip marked the first time Pope John Paul has used his new wheeled chair during a Mass abroad. The chair, which aides can raise and lower, allows the pope to celebrate liturgies while seated.

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## Diocesan planner

### Upcoming Parish Events May

**13 CHARLOTTE** — The St. Gabriel Church Arthritis Support and Education Group will meet this morning 10-11 a.m. in Room D of the parish ministry center located at 3016 Providence Rd. For further details, call (704) 362-5047, ext. 217.

**14 CHARLOTTE** — The 50+ Club of St. John Neumann Church, 8451 Idlewild Rd., will be conducting a meeting this morning at 11 a.m. with a program and lunch in the parish center. Donations are being accepted during the meeting. For more information, call Lucille Kroboth at (704) 537-2189.

**16 CHARLOTTE** — Thank God It's Friday (TGIF), a weekly support group for separated and divorced women, meets tonight at 7 p.m. in the

St. Matthew Church parish center, 8015 Ballantyne Pkwy., with its monthly potluck dinner with a guest speaker from the community. TGIF is a healing ministry sponsored by Catholic Social Services, Charlotte Regional Office and St. Matthew Church. For details, call Trish Wilson at (704) 543-8986.

**17 GREENSBORO** — Knights of Columbus councils #939 and #11101 will be hosting a Right to Life yard sale at St. Pius X Church, 2210 N. Elm St. today 8 a.m.-1:30 p.m. For details on donating items or other information, call the church office at (336) 272-4681 or Bill Eastwood at (336) 674-2674.

**18 MOUNT HOLLY** — Father John Hoover will celebrate Mass at historic St. Joseph Church today, the 27th anniversary of his ordination. Built in 1843, St. Joseph Church is the oldest Catholic church in North Carolina. Mass will begin at 4 p.m. Please bring your own picnic supper. Call (704) 541-5026 for directions and details.

**18 CHARLOTTE** — St. Thomas

Aquinas Church, 1400 Suther Rd., will be hosting an Ultreya today at 1:30 p.m. There will be a family potluck and childcare will be available. For more information, call Dan Hines at (704) 544-6665 or visit [www.charlottecursillo.org](http://www.charlottecursillo.org). To receive Cursillo information via e-mail contact [bmayer@alltel.net](mailto:bmayer@alltel.net).

**19 CHARLOTTE** — Christians in Career Transition is a ministry of St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy., devoted to helping people in career crises. The meetings will take place on the first and third Mondays of every month 7-9 p.m. in the conference room. For more information, call Rev. Mr. Jim Hamrlik at (704) 576-0456.

**19 ASHEVILLE** — The St. Martin De Porres Pro-Chapter of the Dominican Laity will be meeting tonight and every third Monday at 7 p.m. in St. Justin's Center at the Basilica of St. Lawrence, 97 Haywood St. Inquirers are welcome. For more information, contact Beverly Reid, OPL, at (828) 253-6676.

**19 CHARLOTTE** — The Ladies An-



### Experts discuss impact of TV images of war, violence on viewers

LOS ANGELES (CNS) — For 26 days, many Americans were glued to television sets watching "Operation Iraqi Freedom" like it was play-by-play coverage of their favorite sports team. But instead of seeing the occasional scuffle between players, viewers of the war coverage were bombarded with constant violence, turmoil, and pain and suffering of victims of war. According to media experts interviewed by The Tidings, newspaper of the Los Angeles Archdiocese, words and pictures cannot adequately convey the amount of suffering war produces and they can even affect how people react to violence and death in real life. "The risk is that we are not able to make the cognitive leap from fake violence (on television and in movies) or the random violence shown in local news," said Lawrence Wenner, professor of communication and ethics at Loyola Marymount University. "We lump it all together and it can create unnecessary fear."

### Vatican wants business role in development programs monitored

UNITED NATIONS (CNS) — The Vatican's U.N. representative called April 30 for governments to establish mechanisms for monitoring the role of business and other private groups in governmental development programs. Without such mechanisms, governments faced "the risk of privatizing" development and "further excluding the weakest groups," said Archbishop Celestino Migliore. Speaking at U.N. headquarters in New York, the Vatican nuncio said partnerships of governments and international organizations with "business and civil society" could "play an important role." But such partnership arrangements "should not be seen as replacing or substituting for intergovernmentally agreed commitments," he said.

### Priest calls on every parish, every Catholic to help end abortion

ROME/ROVILLE, Ill. (CNS) — Father Frank Pavone, a priest of the New

York Archdiocese who is international director of Priests for Life, said there are a number of actions every Catholic and every parish can do to end abortion. Above all, Catholics should pray for an end to abortion, Father Pavone said. "It's a simple thing you can do," he said at an April 27 talk sponsored by the Joliet Diocese's pro-life office. But he also suggested parishes support crisis pregnancy organizations and local shelters that help pregnant women in need, and hold fund-raisers to help churches assist women and their families facing crisis pregnancies.

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CNS PHOTO BY MONTE MACE, THE LEAVEN

**Woman surveys damage after tornadoes rip through Midwest**  
Verna Becker, a parishioner of Christ the King Church in Kansas City, Kan., surveys the damage to her home May 5 after devastating tornadoes ripped through communities in the Midwest. Catholic Charities was appealing for donations to help families affected by the wild spring storms that left at least 35 people dead and hundreds homeless.

### African bishops criticize court ruling granting gays parenting rights

CAPE TOWN, South Africa (CNS) — The Southern African Catholic Bishops' Conference has criticized a Constitutional Court ruling granting parenting rights to same-sex partners in South Africa. Noting its "concern for the best interests of the child and the Christian sacrament of marriage," the conference said the ruling "effectively grants the same rights to homosexual partners as to married heterosexual partners." "The implica-

tion is that same-sex relationships will have the same status as married partners in South Africa," the bishops' conference said in an April 25 statement from its Pretoria headquarters.

tion is that same-sex relationships will have the same status as married partners in South Africa," the bishops' conference said in an April 25 statement from its Pretoria headquarters.

### Survey says about 25 percent of German Catholics confident in church

COLOGNE, Germany (CNS) — About 25 percent of German Catholics who participated in a major survey said they had confidence in the church, while 36 percent saw an urgent need for change. The survey, with results published April 22, queried some 350,000 Germans on their views on major institutions, including the Catholic and Protestant churches. Overall, 11 percent of Germans said they had confidence in the Catholic Church, 45 percent had no confidence in the church, 12 percent said the church did its job well and 29 percent saw an urgent need for change.

### Pro-life dinner participants say they are winning abortion battle

NEW YORK (CNS) — Participants in the 10th annual Proudly Pro-Life Awards Dinner April 29 expressed confidence that they were winning the battle against abortion. Benjamin J. Stein, a movie and television personality who was one of the honorees, reported that he used to get booed when he presented his anti-abortion views to college groups, but now got "wild applause." "I believe the tide is turning in our favor," he said. Stein also said pro-life forces owed a lot to President Bush and the Republican Party. "Without the Republican Party being on our side, this would be a lost cause."

The Proudly Pro-Life dinner, held in the Waldorf Astoria Hotel in New York, is a fund-raising event of the National Right to Life Committee to benefit its Educational Trust Fund. In an evening that spotlighted figures from the entertainment world, awards also went to Margaret Colin, an actress currently appearing in the Broadway production of "A Day in the Death of Joe Egg," and to Jennifer O'Neill, an actress known for her roles in "Summer of '42" and other movies.

the annual Catholic Renewal Conference, featuring Rev. Tom Forrest, CSSR, international director of Evangelization 2000, will be held May 30-June 1, at Greensboro College, 815 West Market Street. Speakers also include Rev. Christopher Davis of Reidsville and Mrs. Hannah Hammer of Greensboro. On-campus housing, meals and childcare are provided. For registration information, contact Melodie Manna at (336) 760-1110.

**25 HENDERSONVILLE** — The St. Francis of the Hills Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order will meet today 3-5 p.m. at Immaculate Conception Church, 208 7th Ave. West. Visitors and inquirers are welcome, so for more information, call Helen Gillogly, SFO, at (828) 883-9645.

**26 NEWTON** — The Little Flowers Catholic Girls' Group is for all Catholic girls ages five and up. The group will be meeting at St. Joseph Church, 720 West 13th St., at 4 p.m. in the Holy Family Hall. For more details, call Debbie Vickers at (828) 495-2039.

**28 GUILFORD COUNTY** — The Ancient Order of Hibernians Guilford County Division, the oldest and largest order of Irish Catholic men, is looking for more Irish Catholic men to join them for meetings, educational seminars and social events. Contact Michael Slane at (336) 665-9264 for time and location.

**30 GREENSBORO** — "Go and Tell,"

**31 SALISBURY** — School of Leaders will meet at Sacred Heart Church today 9-11:30 a.m., following the 8 a.m. Mass. There will also be a Secretariat meeting 1-2:30 p.m. For more information, call Dan Hines at (704) 544-6665 or visit [www.charlottecursillo.org](http://www.charlottecursillo.org). To receive Cursillo information via e-mail contact [bmayer@alltel.net](mailto:bmayer@alltel.net).

### June

**1 CHARLOTTE** — The St. Maximilian Kolbe Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order will be gathering today at 2 p.m. at Our Lady of Consolation

Church, 2301 Statesville Ave. Those interested in learning more about the SFO and the Franciscan way of life are invited to attend. For more information, call Skyler Harvey, SFO, at (704) 545-9133.

**1 SALISBURY** — Sacred Heart Church, 128 N. Fulton St., will be celebrating a charismatic and healing Mass today at 4 p.m. Prayer and worship with prayer teams will be available at 3 p.m., and a potluck dinner will follow the Mass. Father John Putnam, pastor, will be the celebrant. For further information, call Bill Owens at (704) 639-9837.

**2 CLEMMONS** — Holy Family Church, 4820 Kinnamon Rd., will be celebrating a charismatic Mass tonight at 7:30 p.m. The sacrament of reconciliation will be given at 7 p.m., and the laying on of hands will take place after Mass. The next Mass will be celebrated on July 7. For more information, call the church office at (336) 778-0600 or Jim Passero at (336) 998-7503.



# Priest calls on every parish, every Catholic to help end abortion

By PAUL STORER

CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

ROMEDEVILLE, Ill. — Father Frank Pavone, a priest of the New York Archdiocese who is international director of Priests for Life, said there are a number of actions every Catholic and every parish can do to end abortion.

Above all, Catholics should pray for an end to abortion, Father Pavone said. "It's a simple thing you can do," he said at an April 27 talk sponsored by the Joliet Diocese's pro-life office.

But he also suggested parishes support crisis pregnancy organizations and local shelters that help pregnant women in need, and hold fund-raisers to help churches assist women and their families facing crisis pregnancies.

Parishes also should offer some kind of post-abortion ministry to help women and their families heal, Father Pavone said. He also encouraged everybody to constantly write letters to the editors of newspapers in their area to speak out against abortion.

Another part of the abortion battle is "to change public policy by electing the right people into office," said Father Pavone.

To that end Priests for Life offers parishes free election-related materials — none of which, as the law requires, endorse any particular candidates or political parties. And in a new initiative, it is also encouraging churches to create on-site voter registration facilities to remind citizens of their obligation to vote.

According to Father Pavone, the lives of more than 4,000 unborn children are destroyed by abortion every day in the United States.

Each termination of a pregnancy is "a new tragedy" and "needs a new response," he said.

He used the scenario of a fire to make his point. When a fire breaks out, firefighters rush to the location of the blaze to help save people who are in immediate danger, he said. Firefighters may pray on the way, but they do not stop to have a prayer service, he said.

In the same vein, "you must go to the killing centers," he said, referring to abortion clinics.

In this day and age, the word "abortion" has lost its meaning, according to Father Pavone. Abortions are performed, but the general public does not witness them, he said.

Yet many types of surgery are broadcast daily on television, he noted. "Why not the most common — abortion?" To educate people about the problem with abortion, "they must see it," he said.

Priests for Life recommends that pro-lifers illustrate the abortion procedure with real pictures on rally signs. "This gives evidence that abortion actually kills," Father Pavone said.

He said studies indicate that people tend to be less angry with pro-life protesters who hold signs with graphic representations as opposed to signs that simply use words against abortion.

"They see that it is an act of violence," he said. Such pictures have saved lives, according to the priest, because after seeing them, he said, people who were contemplating abortion say, "I could never have done that to my baby."

Father Pavone noted that throughout the last 10 years, more than half of the abortion clinics in the United States have closed, and he credits the power of prayer for the closures.

He said that during the first two decades after Roe vs. Wade, the 1973 Supreme Court decision that legalized abortion, the procedure increased while acts of perpetual adoration declined in the United States. Now, he said, perpetual adoration has been restored and abortion procedures are declining.

"These are exciting spiritual times," he added.

Priests for Life, which is based in Staten Island, N.Y., is currently working on matching the country's 19,000-plus Catholic parishes with the remaining 715 free-standing abortion clinics to pray for their closure. Parishes can find out what abortion clinic has been assigned to them at [www.priestsforlife.org/mills](http://www.priestsforlife.org/mills).

The organization also has prepared a special prayer that can be recited publicly and privately for this purpose. Officials of the organization say they are urging priests, deacons, catechists and other pastoral ministers to come up with creative ways to involve parishioners in the prayer effort.

## In the Diocese of Charlotte

Maggi Nadol, director of the Catholic Social Services Respect Life Office in the Diocese of Charlotte, recommends being pro-active in the pro-life fight.

"I encourage Catholics in our diocese to be an active, integral part of their parish Respect Life ministry," said Nadol. "Your prayers, input and creativity are needed and welcomed. Please help end the Culture of Death by being a voice for life."

## FIGHTING FOR LIFE

# Minnesota women get 'right to know' on abortion risks, alternatives

By CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

ST. PAUL, Minn. (CNS) — After nine years of legislative battles, the Woman's Right to Know Act became law in Minnesota April 14.

Once it takes effect this summer, it will require that women in Minnesota be given information and wait 24 hours before having an abortion. The legislation also mandates that a woman be informed about the risks and alternatives to abortion, as well as the probable gestational age of the unborn child and the medical and financial assistance that may be available to the mother.

Gov. Tim Pawlenty signed the bill just hours after the Minnesota Senate passed the legislation by a 41-24 margin after a nine-hour debate. The House previously approved the measure.

The wait will go into effect July 1, but it could take another 90 days for the Minnesota Department of Health to prepare the mandatory information.

Pro-life groups such as Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life view the bill's passage as a major victory.

"This is a good, solid bill with better provisions to empower women than any other informed consent law in the nation," said Marice Rosenberg, vice president of the Minnesota pro-life group.

"Women have been denied information about abortion and fetal pain and about the beautiful world of a developing unborn child for far too long," she added. "This bill will now give every woman in Minnesota the opportunity to see the various stages of fetal development and learn about abortion's complications and alternatives."

The response in the Diocese of Charlotte is equally positive.

"Women facing an unplanned pregnancy often feel pressured to abort their unborn child," said Maggi Nadol, director of the Catholic Social Services Respect Life Office in the Diocese of Charlotte.

"If we let women know the realities of abortion, alternatives available and the facts about their developing baby, perhaps we can prevent them from mak-

ing a decision that will negatively impact them the rest of their life," she said.

The Minnesota Department of Health will provide both printed and Web site facts about abortion by Oct. 1. For example, more than 100 Minnesota women experienced serious medical complications, such as cervical laceration, hemorrhage, uterine perforation, incomplete abortion and infection requiring hospitalization during 2001, according to the Center for Health Statistics, Minnesota Department of Health.

The legislation also would enable women to sue abortionists who fail to provide this information.

"Although 77 percent of Minnesota's women voters support the Woman's Right to Know Act, the abortion industry continues to vehemently oppose it," said Rosenberg. "The abortion industry has even indicated that it will challenge this law in court, even though it has been upheld as constitutional in other states and by the U.S. Supreme Court."

At least 16 other states have enacted similar informed consent legislation. Twice in recent years, similar measures have passed the Minnesota Legislature only to be vetoed by former Gov. Jesse Ventura. Former Gov. Arne Carlson, Ventura's predecessor, also opposed such legislation.

"For nine years and through three governors, the grass roots have struggled to get a Woman's Right to Know bill passed," said Scott Fischbach, executive director of Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life. "And now, finally, it's law."

Fischbach said opponents of the new law have indicated they will challenge it in court.

*Contributing to this story was Joseph Young in St. Cloud, and Acting Editor Kevin E. Murray.*

For more information on post-abortion healing in the Diocese of Charlotte, call the Respect Life Office at (704) 370-3229.

## Spring Fever?

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## PRISONS, from page 1

A July 2002 report of the Bureau of Justice Statistics Bulletin revealed the United States leads the entire world in rate of incarceration, and the states with the highest incarceration rate are in the South. The U.S. Department of Justice reported prisons operated by private corporations house over 100,000 prisoners nationwide.

"Private prisons have become more prevalent because our nation is putting growing numbers of people behind bars, governments are facing the rising costs of incarceration as with all public services, and there is increasing political pressure to privatize many government services," said the statement.

The Bishops of the South "note with apprehension" the rise of for-profit prisons in the South and the nation because "previous attempts to introduce the profit motive into prisons have failed to respect the fundamental human dignity of every prisoner. ...When prisoners become units from which profit is derived, there is a tendency to see them as commodities rather than as children of God."

The bishops are also "troubled by the documented level of violence against prisoners in private prisons," according to the statement. "Once people are dehumanized, they are more liable to be exploited, abused and violated and become more violent themselves."

Believing private prisons present "serious moral issues" and are "not consistent with the need for our prisons to respect the human dignity of each and every person," the Bishops of the South call for all levels of government to refuse to sign new contracts or to renew expiring ones with private prison corporations.

The document also calls for the South and the nation to change "policies that are putting so many of our people in prison. ...Only when our criminal justice system reflects the love and truth of Jesus Christ will our communities be truly safe and just."

Contact Acting Editor Kevin E. Murray by calling (704) 370-3334 or e-mail [kemurray@charlottediocese.org](mailto:kemurray@charlottediocese.org).

## Laboring to benefit others

Conference explores 'Catholic Social Teaching and Economic Life'

By REV. MR. GERALD POTKAY  
CORRESPONDENT

KERNERSVILLE — Members of the Diocese of Charlotte recently took a good look at "Catholic Social Teaching and Economic Life."

The seminar, held at Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School May 3, was presented by the diocese's Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) and Catholic Social Services' Office of Justice and Peace.

"The church's vision of building a Catholic social society in cooperation with God's grace for the benefit of all peoples was started in modern times with Pope Leo XIII's encyclical "Rerum Novarum: On the Condition of Labor," said Scott Klinger, Responsible Wealth Project co-director for United for a Fair Economy and one of the workshop's speakers.

Social justice must augment the role of charity, said Klinger.

"Incorporating Social change in public corporate policies and looking at the root causes of injustices means we are in it for the long term. We need to work together to change conditions that help raise the dignity of the human person," he said.

Fundamental to Catholic social teaching is that "the economy exists to serve the human person, the person does not exist to serve the economy," said Klinger. "The person is sacred and human dignity comes from God. It is not a result of human achievement. Therefore, when one judges the system, the questions asked must be: 'What does it do for or do to the person? How does it permit the human person to develop?'"

Joanne Kennedy Frazier, a consultant for the national office of CCHD, spoke on the conditions needed for individuals and social groups to develop their fullest potential.

"The moral measure of the economy is how the poor and the vulnerable are fairing," she said. "The fact that so many people are poor in a nation as rich as ours is a social and moral scandal that cannot be ignored."

Frazier said basic human rights consist of life, food, clothing, shelter, basic



PHOTO BY REV. MR. GERALD POTKAY

Scott Klinger of United for a Fair Economy gives a practical demonstration on ownership of household wealth in the United States at the "Catholic Social Teaching and Economic Life" seminar at Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School in Kernersville May 3.

education, health care, a safe environment, periods of rest and leisure and economic security, especially for the disabled and elderly.

"The government has a moral obligation to protect these human rights," she said. "We must pray and develop a relationship with God. Look around and see with God's eyes. Then cut down your comfort zone."

Participant Lara Owensby from Winston-Salem said, "Charity can be very impersonal. To work for justice, I must believe in order to participate, to engage the human person and to teach the person to be self-sustaining."

Following the speakers were breakout sessions, two of which dealt with helping people rise in dignity by helping themselves, and two that dealt with economic institutions and policies.

"It really made us think in broader terms," said participant Carl McCollum, a parishioner of St. Joseph Church in Asheboro. "I've learned that I am able to do more than what I thought I could when I came. Now I know I have an obligation to do it."

"There's a lot of work ahead," said Cathy Robertson, a parishioner of St. Joseph of the Hills Church in Eden. "We

need to enlighten the community to the social rights of the human being. ...Community leaders must work together. We can't let it be all Democrats or all Republicans — we must all get involved as Catholics."

Contact Correspondent Rev. Mr. Gerald Potkay by calling (336) 427-8218 or e-mail [gpotkay@triad.rr.com](mailto:gpotkay@triad.rr.com).

### Pope says globalization must be regulated by international consensus

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — If globalization is to benefit all the world's inhabitants, it must be directed and regulated with international consensus, Pope John Paul II said.

When the forces of a market economy and special interests are the only things guiding the international exchange of capital, goods and information, the weakest members of society have no guarantee of benefit and risk greater exploitation, the pope said May 2.

"Globalization itself is not the problem; rather, difficulties arise from the lack of effective mechanisms for giving it proper direction," he told members of the Pontifical Academy of Social Sciences beginning a five-day plenary session focused on "the governance of globalization."



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### Bishop DiMarzio honored for work with immigrants

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Bishop Nicholas A. DiMarzio of Camden, N.J., was among immigrant advocates honored May 2 by the National Immigration Forum. Bishop DiMarzio, chairman of the Catholic Legal Immigration Network, known as CLINIC, received the Fannie Mae Foundation Golden Door Award for outstanding leadership in immigrant-related work. "When the history is written of America's late-20th-century's renewal as a nation of immigrants and land of refuge, Bishop DiMarzio's contributions will fill its pages," said the program citation about the award. Himself the grandchild of Italian immigrants, Bishop DiMarzio's work with immigrants dates back to his social work studies of undocumented workers in the Newark, N.J., area. He later served as executive director of the bishops' Migration and Refugee Services in the late 1980s and early 1990s, overseeing the resettlement of more than 30,000 refugees a year. He also chaired the bishops' Committee on Migration from 1998 to 2001.

### Support of school, parish helps teen cope with disabling accident

HOLYOKE, Mass. (CNS) — "I don't consider myself handicapped," said 13-year-old Jonathan LaMagdelaine as he sat in his wheelchair in the living room of his Holyoke home. "I just find different ways to do the same things everyone else does." Nearly a year ago, no one else considered him handicapped either. But that changed on June 27 last year. Jonathan, who had completed the sixth grade at Holyoke's Blessed Sacrament School the previous week, was spending the day swimming with friends at a neighbor's pool. He dove

into the 4-foot-deep above-ground pool, slammed his head on the bottom and broke his neck, suffering what is called stable compression fractures to his spinal cord. Jonathan was unconscious and not breathing.

Jonathan, paralyzed from the chest down, is a quadriplegic. After two weeks in a local hospital, he was sent to hospitals in Boston, where he stayed, with his mom always at his side, until December. Now he no longer needs a ventilator to breathe and has made what his mother calls tremendous progress. He undergoes rigorous three-hour physical and occupational therapy sessions three times a week and also participates in two hours of therapy

### Indian-born Swiss sworn in to protect pope At Vatican

Indian-born Dhani Bachmann, a naturalized Swiss citizen, is sworn into the elite guard that protects the pope and Vatican. The pope welcomed 32 new recruits to the Swiss Guard during the May 6 ceremony.



CNS PHOTO FROM REUTERS

every day at home. "We're grateful for every day of new movement and progress," his mother, Debbie LaMagdelaine, told The Catholic Observer, newspaper of the Springfield Diocese.

### Family Theater aims to see Gospel message more accepted in Hollywood

HOLLYWOOD (CNS) — Once a month, across the street from one seedy gentleman's club and beneath a billboard for another one, several young Hollywood professionals enter a nondescript, cement block building that houses Family Theater Productions. They arrive for "Prayer and Pasta," and their mission is to pray

that "the message of the Gospel and the church will be more accepted in Hollywood," according to Holy Cross Father Willy Raymond, director of Family Theater. In an interview with the National Catholic Register, Father Raymond said that with Catholic values often under attack by the entertainment industry, he is fighting to save Hollywood's soul. He is trying to give Catholics in the entertainment industry the spiritual support they need to be true to the church in their work, and he wants to embrace non-Catholics in the industry who want to become Catholic. "Prayer and Pasta" is a program that brings Hollywood professionals together to pray, eat and talk.

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(Diocese of Richmond)  
"Raising a New Consciousness of What it Means to be Church – The U.S. Bishops are Called to Respond to Powerlessness and Oppression in Appalachia"



**Sister Beth Davies, CND**  
"Seeking to Understand the Struggles and Joys of Appalachia – The Key Elements of *This Land is Home to Me*"



**Joseph Holland, Ph.D.**  
"Exploring Connections, Seeking Sustainability – The Key Elements of *At Home in the Web of Life*"



**Fr. John Rausch, Glenmary**  
"Appalachia in a Globalized Economy – The Key Issues Facing Appalachia Today and in the Future"

For information and registration, visit [www.cssnc.org/justicepeace](http://www.cssnc.org/justicepeace) or contact:

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### St. Leo School goes to Washington

Eighth-graders from St. Leo School in Winston-Salem stand in front of the U.S. Capitol building in Washington during their class trip in early March. The group stayed in the nation's capital for four days and visited several monuments.

## Two new Eagle Scouts at St. Leo the Great

WINSTON-SALEM — Alexander Eiffe and Brian Trenor of Boy Scout Troop 958 at St. Leo the Great Church received Eagle Scout Awards May 4.

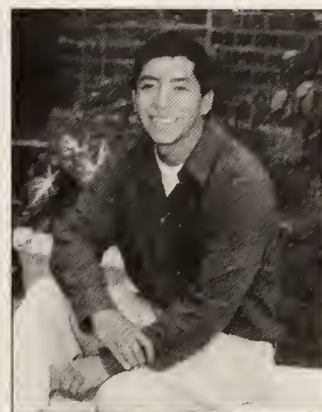
To complete his requirements for the Eagle award, Eiffe created a nature trail for Mineral Springs Elementary School. Eiffe will graduate in May from Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School, at which he is a National Honor Society member and active in both school and St. Leo the Great Church activities.

He is also the recipient of the Ad Altare Dei and Order of the Arrow awards, and has served as vice-chief of Indian affairs for the Wahissa 118 lodge of the Order of the Arrow brotherhood.

Trenor made Eagle Scout by contributing monetary resources through a yard sale for St. Leo the Great Church's Hispanic Ministry. Trenor, a senior at Bishop McGuinness, is a high honor roll student, a member of the National Latin Honor Society, Harvard Model Congress, orchestra and forensics and film clubs.

Additional Scouting honors include Ad Altare Dei and Order of the Arrow.

Boy Scout Troop 958 congratulate Eiffe and Trenor on their accomplishments.



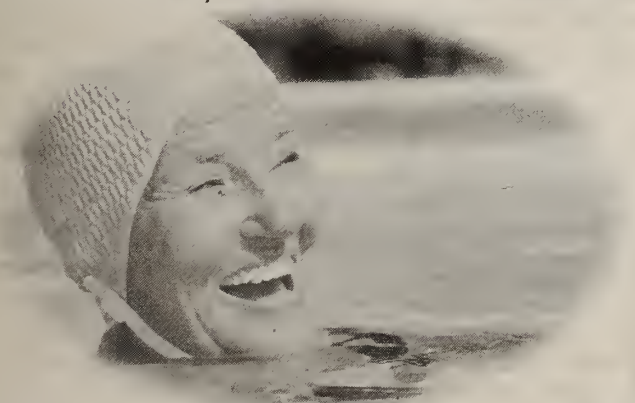
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## MARRIAGE, from page 1

to the dignity of a sacrament."

A sacrament is an outward sign of inward grace, an indication that God intended "the vocation to marriage (to be) written in the very nature of man and woman as they came from the hand of the Creator" (CCC, no. 1603).

### Sacramental marriage

How important is it to have a Christian marriage? It is critical, according to Michael G. Lawler, Amelia and Emil Graf chair in Catholic theological studies and director of the Center for Marriage and Family at Creighton University.

"A sacramental marriage is more than a legal bond; it is also a religious covenant," Lawler writes in "Life Together: A Catechesis of Marriage as Sacrament."

"It is more than a legal right; it is also grace. It is something intrinsic to (a Christian) marriage, something without which it would not be sacramental marriage at all. ... This is part of what the Catholic Church means when it teaches that marriage is graced and is, therefore, sacrament. In the present dire state of marriage and family in the United States, this demands to be made known to every Christian about to be married."

Pope Pius XI wrote in "Casti Connubii," his encyclical on Christian marriage, that marital love does not consist "in pleasing words only, but in the deep attachment of the heart [will] which is expressed in action, since love is proved by deeds." This love "must have as its primary purpose that man [sic] and wife help each other day by day... [to] ... grow in true love towards God and their neighbor."

The Second Vatican Council gave further support for the sacramental marriage in the pastoral constitution "Gaudium et Spes": "The intimate partnership of married life and love has been established by the Creator and qualified by His laws, and is rooted in the jugal covenant of irrevocable personal consent. Hence by that human act whereby spouses mutually bestow and accept each other a relationship arises which by divine will and in the eyes of society too is a lasting one. For the good of the spouses and their off-springs as well as of society, the existence of the sacred bond no longer depends on human decisions alone. For, God Himself is the author of matrimony, endowed as it is with various benefits and purposes" (GS, no. 48).

The council fathers noted that "marriage was not instituted solely for the procreation of children: its nature as an indissoluble covenant between two people and the good of the children de-

mand that the mutual love of the partners be properly expressed, that it should grow and mature" (GS, no. 50).

Covenant is a word used often in the Catholic Church. In the sacramental marriage, to covenant is to commit oneself radically and solemnly (cf. CCC, no. 1623) to exploring the religious depth of life together and to respond to that depth in light of a mutual covenant to Christ, according to Lawler.

"It is also, and more crucially," Lawler writes, "a life to be lived in equal and loving partnership."

### Preparing for the sacrament

Most of the sacraments of the church (except Anointing of the Sick) require a period of preparation. Parents and godparents attend baptismal preparation classes. School-age children are all too familiar with faith formation, which prepares them for reconciliation, Eucharist and confirmation. Priests and deacons undergo a lengthy period of preparation before ordination.

It naturally follows, then, that matrimony would require comparable preparation, as its intention is to intertwine two lives in an indissoluble union and ideally produce new life.

In 1995, the Center for Marriage and Family at Creighton University conducted a national study of marriage preparation that showed that almost two-thirds of couples who participated in marriage preparation programs considered the experience beneficial.

"Marriage preparation should, therefore, receive the support of churches because it stabilizes and enhances marriage and family," wrote Lawler.

Diocesan-sponsored preparation programs, such as PreCana, Engaged Encounter and Sponsor Couple Program, share the common goal of helping the couple discern their readiness for marriage and assess whether they need to learn new, and perhaps dramatically different, skills for establishing and maintaining a sacramental marriage.

Preparation programs generally consist of verifying the couple's "freedom to marry" in the church as well as their psychological and spiritual readiness for Christian marriage, wrote Robert Ruhnke in "Marriage Preparation Programs: Are They Working?"

The Family Life Program, a special ministry of Catholic Social Services in the Diocese of Charlotte, offers a one-day workshop, "Preparing for Your Marriage in the Catholic Church." The workshop addresses such critical issues as family history, sexuality and procreation, financial issues and communication and conflict resolution.

"The marriage preparation workshop gives couples an opportunity to discuss issues they might have overlooked,"



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**Jesus performs miracle at Cana**  
On the threshold of his public life, Jesus performs his first sign-at his mother's request-during a wedding feast. The church attaches great importance to Jesus' presence at the wedding at Cana. She sees in it the confirmation of the goodness of marriage and the proclamation that thenceforth marriage will be an efficacious sign of Christ's presence.

said Amy Coburn Rubio, registrar for the PreCana program.

Unfortunately, the study showed that the perceived value of marriage preparation was highest in the first year of marriage and diminished after that. The decrease became more rapid as the spouses pass their fourth anniversary.

For this reason, Lawler stated, "Marriage preparation has a restricted shelf-life and must be supported with booster shots as the years progress and the circumstances of the spouses change."

### Preserving a sacramental marriage

Keeping the relationship vibrant and alive is critical to the success of any marriage. Marriage Encounter (ME) is one program that works to this end. Couples recently gathered at the Catholic Conference Center in Hickory for Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. During the course of the weekend, married

couples were given the opportunity to examine their lives together, to share their feelings, hopes, disappointments, joys and frustrations.

A Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend is not a retreat, seminar or counseling session, but rather, an opportunity for happily married couples to revitalize their relationship. Presentations give couples the opportunity to look at themselves as individuals, then look at their marriage and relationship to one another and finally to look at their relationship to God, the church and the world.

WorldWide Marriage Encounter's mission is to renew the church and assist couples and priests to live fully intimate and responsible relationships by providing them with a Catholic "experience" and ongoing community support for such a lifestyle.


A Marriage Encounter weekend teaches a communication technique that permits couples to explore important areas of their relationship in a spirit of love and understanding. By continuing the newly acquired technique begun on the weekend, husbands and wives continually grow closer together to live more joyful and purposeful lives.

"The communication techniques taught on the weekend gave us the tools to better deal with whatever the world throws in our path," said Bill Edwards, husband of a presenting couple. "We have experienced more joy and intimacy in our marriage. For me, I learned how much I took our relationship for granted. The weekend brought us closer together than I ever imagined. Even our 12-year-old daughter noticed a difference in us after we were encountered."

"A Worldwide Marriage Encounter can add greater depth, growth and enrichment in your marriage," said Edwards' wife, Joy. "I learned a healthier and intimate way of communicating. Our relationship has become more open and loving and we have rekindled the romance. Our home has a more loving and peaceful atmosphere."

"It often amazes couples the time and effort the church puts towards the 'happily ever after' part," said Coburn. "Yes, it's serious work to be married in the Catholic Church, but it won't compare to the effort it takes to be happily married. Our goal is forever."

Contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans by calling (704) 370-3354 or e-mail [kaevans@charlottediocese.org](mailto:kaevans@charlottediocese.org).



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# Honoring Mary, Mother of God, on Mother's Day

## Mary is the mother of peace

By KEVIN E. MURRAY  
ACTING EDITOR

CHARLOTTE — With Mother's Day this weekend, many people throughout the Diocese of Charlotte will be honoring the mothers in their lives. But it is also a time to recognize and honor the mother of all mothers — Mary, the mother of God.

"Mary, queen of peace, is in fact a mother, and like every mother she has only one desire for her children: to see them live in peace and harmony," said Pope John Paul II to thousands of young people gathered in the Vatican's St. Peter's Square April 10.

Addressing Mary as mother means "committing yourself to peace," said the pope. He entrusted the young people of the world to Mary's protection, asking her to bring them closer to Christ and help them be peacemakers in the world.

"In this troubled moment of history, when terrorism and wars threaten agreement among people and among religions, I want to entrust you to Mary so that you become promoters of that culture of peace which is more necessary than ever," the pope told the young people.

Mary has held an important position throughout the Catholic Church's history. The Vatican II Council affirmed in its document "Lumen Gentium" that the sacred writings of the Old and New Testaments, as well as Tradition, show the role of Mary "in the plan of salvation in an ever clearer light and call our attention to it."

Mary gave herself completely to God's plan of salvation by agreeing to be the mother of Jesus; as a result, because Jesus is both totally human and at the same time totally divine, Mary is given the title "Mother of God."

The Council document explains that by being acknowledged and honored as the mother of God, Mary "is endowed with the high office and dignity of being the mother of the Son of God, and therefore she is also the beloved daughter of the Father and the temple of the Holy Spirit. Because of this gift of sublime grace she far surpasses all creatures, both in heaven and on earth," it says.

Pope John Paul II calls Mary the "woman of the Eucharist" in his 14th encyclical letter, "Ecclesia de Eucharistia," published April 17. The pope used the document, on the Eu-



CNS PHOTO COURTESY ART RESOURCE

### Madonna and Christ child by Fra Angelico

Mary and the child Jesus appear in the center panel of a triptych attributed to 15th-century Italian monk and painter Fra Angelico. The artwork is a holding of the Uffizi in Florence, Italy.

charist and its relationship to the church, to offer a reflection on Mary.

In the chapter on Mary, the pope describes her as "the first tabernacle in history," the vessel "in which the Son of God, still invisible to our human gaze, allowed himself to be adored by Elizabeth" as the pregnant Mary visited her cousin.

Mary's "yes" to the Incarnation and believers' "Amen" to receiving Christ in the Eucharist are analogous, he said.

The 82-year-old pope told the youths at St. Peter's Square he had experienced Mary's protection throughout his life, and he prayed that new generations of Catholics would have the same experience.

He prayed that young people would find refuge under the mantle of Mary and that she would make "the beauty of Christ shine in them."

He also prayed that Mary would guide them as they discover their vocations and lead those called to married life "to the knowledge of true love and bless their affections."

Contact Acting Editor Kevin E. Murray by calling (704) 370-3334 or e-mail [kemurray@charlottediocese.org](mailto:kemurray@charlottediocese.org).

## House in Turkey with ties to Mary said to offer message for today

By MARK ZIMMERMAN  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON (CNS) — A place closely connected to Mary in present-day Turkey was a focal point of the early church but it offers an important message to today's people of faith because pilgrims of all faiths and cultures gather there to pray, said an archbishop from Turkey.

Archbishop Giuseppe Bernardini of Izmir serves as custos, or spiritual caretaker, of an ancient stone house in Ephesus that many believe to be the house where Mary lived her last years.

Izmir includes Ephesus, an ancient Greek city in West Asia Minor. Its early Christian community was the recipient of St. Paul's Letter to the Ephesians. But Ephesus in present-day Turkey is a famous pilgrimage location today because of its connection to Mary. The house venerated as her last earthly home is visited by about 1 million pilgrims each year.

Early Christians often built churches to honor holy people near where they lived or died, and the first church dedicated to Mary was built in Ephesus in the second century.

"The house of the Virgin Mary of Ephesus is known as a place where people of different faiths and different cultures pray together, without problem, side by side," said Archbishop Bernardini. "The Blessed Mother receives in her embrace everyone."

Muslims also have special reverence for Mary, and Mary's house in Ephesus is believed to be one of the few places in the world where Christians and Muslims pray together.

At the Council of Ephesus in 431, the Catholic dogma recognizing Mary as the mother of God was proclaimed, and that council also declared that Jesus was of divine and human natures, united in one divine person.

Archbishop Bernardini, whose Franciscan order cares for Mary's house in Ephesus, said that place of pilgrimage radiates "a spirit of peace, a spirit of brotherhood."

The prayerful unity found there, he said, offers special poignancy today, as war rages in Iraq, a neighboring country to Turkey.

### Poor Clare nun hopes new book will spread devotion to rosary

SPOKANE, Wash. (CNS) — Sister Patricia Proctor's name may be on the front of a new book titled "101 Inspirational Stories of the Rosary," but it's very much a book "by the people for the people," she said. It's also a book by the Blessed Mother, according to Sister Patricia, a cloistered Poor Clare nun in Spokane.

The idea came to her last November, about two weeks after Pope John Paul II proclaimed a "year of the rosary" from October 2002 to October 2003.

"It was really the Blessed Mother's idea," she told the Inland Register, newspaper of the Spokane Diocese. "I was just her patsy."

Even though she sees relatively few people in the course of her day, Sister Patricia has a circle of friends around the globe. Her monastery has a Web site — <http://www.calledbyjoy.com> — and she sends out a "Daily Peace Card," an e-mail message that goes to about 12,000 subscribers. She used the peace card to call for inspirational stories connected to the rosary for a book.

Stories began arriving, the book took shape and the nuns formed their own company, Franciscan Monastery Publishing, to publish it.

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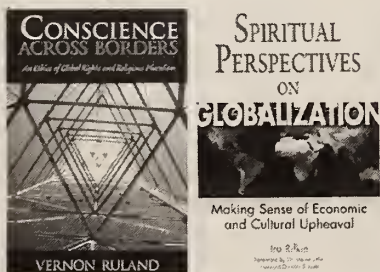
## Book Review

# Three books examine ethics and globalization

REVIEWED BY WAYNE A. HOLST  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

"The sum of the whole matter is this, that our civilization cannot survive materially unless it is redeemed spiritually," President Woodrow Wilson said just before his death in 1924. This insight is even more fitting today. It is the core theme of all three books in this review. These books chart a way forward for civilization — a way that calls on common human values and a multifaith consensus appropriate to life in our contemporary world.

Jesuit Father Vernon Ruland, a therapist and professor, has for many years taught religious ethics, psychology of religion and world religions at the University of San Francisco. His book, "Conscience Across Borders: An Ethics of Global Rights and Religious Pluralism," proposes guidelines to help the world's peoples discover shared core values at a time when, on the surface at least, much of humanity is influenced by conflicting religious truths and moral relativism.



"Conscience Across Borders: An Ethics of Global Rights and Religious Pluralism," by Jesuit Father Vernon Ruland. University of San Francisco/Fordham University Press (New York, 2002). 201 pp., \$15.95.

"Subverting Greed: Religious Perspectives on the Global Economy," edited by Paul F. Knitter and Chandra Muzaffar. Orbis Books (Maryknoll, N.Y., 2002). 194 pp., \$20.00.

"Spiritual Perspectives on Globalization: Making Sense of Economic and Cultural Upheaval," by Ira Rifkin. Skylight Paths (Woodstock, Vt., 2003). 213 pp., \$16.95.

For a long time, predominantly Christian America has assumed that the world would eventually buy into its consumer-centered ways and that other religions would become mere historical remnants. Instead, growing numbers of people around the globe now question the pervasiveness of American culture and its inherent religious values. Americans need to reassess their cultural assumptions and the ways they have promoted their faith.

Father Ruland argues that we need to see that other world religions and cultures possess stories and symbols with which we, too, can identify. He asserts that we can find agreement when we respectfully and patiently talk and listen across cultures and faith traditions. In the past, interfaith dialogue has focused on objective theology or subjective spirituality. Father Ruland proposes that a better way is to locate and promote key ethical principles shared by people of diverse cultures.

In "Subverting Greed: Religious Per-

spectives on the Global Economy" editors Paul Knitter, a Catholic theologian, and Chandra Muzaffar, a Muslim scholar, accent the key finding that the world's religions agree that greed is not an admirable human trait. The nine essays in this collection offer an ethical compass and attempt to stimulate multifaith dialogue based on shared values.

The book proposes that the victims of human greed — the world's poor — challenge stereotypes of differing faith systems. The poor can serve as unifying agents within and between religions. They can also be mediators when religious people from all faith traditions address economic and political issues together.

The authors believe that religious groups should lead the way to help humans learn from each other and to together assess the strengths and shortcomings of the global economy. Drawing from the values, principles and ideals in each of their traditions, they can together posit a vision of life that differs from what the current form of globalization has to offer.

Ira Rifkin, a serious but nonacademic communicator, writes with considerable expertise in comparative religion. His book "Spiritual Perspectives on Globalization: Making Sense of Economic and Cultural Upheaval" looks at the beliefs of eight faith traditions shaping the attitudes of followers as they confront globalization. He also deals with how globalization has changed the ways these traditions function in the world.

The author takes no stand on the truth claims of the traditions he describes, but he considers their inherent spiritual values to be significant. Rifkin acknowledges the good that globalization has contributed to the world —

enhanced communication and expanded marketing of goods and services. Yet many people, particularly in less-developed countries, have been hurt and marginalized by it. In addition, the heedless pursuit of profit destroys the environment and the social values of vulnerable societies worldwide.

Rifkin calls for economic restraint and more effective regulation based on ethical values commonly espoused by many of the world's religions. Unlike the other two books, this one describes differences and divergences existing within and between the traditions. These differences will have to be confronted and harmonized if spiritual values are to effectively engage and influence global economics and politics.

All three studies add significantly to our understanding of the complex subject of globalization. Woodrow Wilson was right. Civilization will not survive materially unless it is redeemed spiritually.

## Word to Life

Sunday Scripture Readings  
May 11, 2003

May 11, Fourth Sunday of Easter

### Cycle B Readings:

- 1) Acts 4:8-12
- Psalm 118:1, 8-9, 21-23, 26, 29
- 2) 1 John 3:1-2
- 3) Gospel: John 10:11-18

BY BEVERLY CORZINE  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

I first saw him, walking in short measured steps several rows in front of me. His sandy blond hair was closely clipped in a GI style. His plaid shirt and navy slacks revealed that they had been laundered and pressed by an expert hand. He was concentrating on staying in exact step with the man in front of him while maintaining an attitude of prayer.

Perhaps he felt my smile because he looked at me for a second and quickly returned to following the man who towered in front of him. When I looked at the man, I realized that the boy who so profoundly mirrored his every movement was surely his son.

The words, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom," enveloped the gathered community while this father and his young son were making their journey to the center aisle of the church to venerate the cross. Just as the usher signaled for my row to begin its own journey to the cross, I watched the young boy kneel

by the bare wooden cross, place his small hand upon it, and then as he stood up he made the sign of the cross just as his father had.

The boy was probably no older than 6. Left. Right. Left. Continuing to incorporate his father's every move and gesture, the boy followed his father up the aisle on Good Friday evening.

Later, in the glow of the lighted parking lot, I saw them one last time. Engrossed in conversation, the man's hand gently rested on the boy's shoulder. From time to time he patted the boy on the head. I wondered if the man knew what great truths he was teaching his son on this special evening.

The readings for this fourth Sunday of Easter speak to us about God's love. Peter explains the healing power of love that is operative in the name of Jesus. Jesus uses the metaphor of the tender shepherd.

In the first letter of St. John, the writer uses a more familiar image of our relationship with God. We are the children of God. Although we may not fully understand yet what that might mean, in God's good time we will. For now it is good to be confident of that love as we continue our journey, one step at a time.

### Questions:

Who will see you today and wonder if you might be one of God's own children? The checker at the store? Your own children? A neighbor?

## Weekly Scripture

### Scripture for the week of May 11 - May 17

Sunday (Fourth Sunday of Easter), Acts 4:8-12, 1 John 3:1-2, John 10:11-18; Monday, Acts 11:1-18, John 10:1-10; Tuesday, Acts 11:19-26, John 10:22-30; Wednesday (St. Matthias), Acts 1:15-17, 20-26, John 15:9-17; Thursday (St. Isidore), Acts 13:13-25, John 13:16-20; Friday, Acts 13:26-33, John 14:1-6; Saturday, Acts 13:44-52, John 14:7-14

### Scripture for the week of May 18 - May 24

Sunday (Fifth Sunday of Easter), Acts 9:26-31, 1 John 3:18-24, John 15:1-8; Monday, Acts 14:5-18, John 14:21-26; Tuesday (St. Bernardine of Siena), Acts 14:19-28, John 14:27-31; Wednesday, Acts 15:1-6, John 15:1-8; Thursday, Acts 15:7-21, John 15:9-11; Friday, Acts 15:22-31, John 15:12-17; Saturday (St. Bede, St. Gregory VII, St. Mary Magdalene de Pazzi), Acts 16:1-10, John 15:18-21

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# Putting the 'X' in excitement

*'X2: X-Men United' relays themes of tolerance, faith*

By DAVID DICERTO  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

NEW YORK — Taking up pretty much where "X-Men" left off, director Bryan Singer's highly entertaining sequel "X2: X-Men United" (Fox) continues the ongoing struggle between good and bad mutants, as they vie for their place in the sun, while asking the burning question, "Can't we all just get along?"

The X-Men, adapted from the enormously successful Marvel Comics series, are a band of humans whose mutated genetics give them extraordinary powers which they use to battle their evil counterparts. Being mutants, however, makes the X-Men — and the thousands like them walking anonymously among mere humdrum homo sapiens — targets of suspicion and derision by the rest of humanity, which cannot accept their differences. This theme is driven home in the opening shot, as a somber voice intoned over an image of Earth observes that tolerance has never been one of mankind's strongest attributes.

Under the tutelage of the wheelchair-bound Professor Charles Xavier (Patrick Stewart) — the world's most powerful telepath — the X-Men have learned to control and direct their respective abilities for the greater good of man- and mutantkind, seeking peaceful coexistence.

Their ranks include: Logan, a.k.a. Wolverine (Hugh Jackman), an indestructible, cigar-chomping, fighting machine with regenerative healing powers, a bad-attitude, and retractable metal claws to boot; Cyclops (James Marsden), a preppy mutant with eyes that shoot laser beams; Storm (Halle Berry), who possesses the power to control the weather; and Jean Grey (Famke Jansen), both telekinetic and telepathic.

At the outset, Nightcrawler (Alan Cummings), a blue-skinned, fork-tailed mutant who can vanish and dematerialize at will, mops the floor with the small army of Secret Service agents protecting the president. The assassination is foiled, but an ominous message is left behind, "Free Mutants Now."

The attempt on the president's life fans the flames of the ongoing Red Scare-like debate over how to best handle the "mutant problem," a story line carried over from the first film. The attack strengthens the position of anti-mutant hawks, prompting the president to authorize Gen. William Stryker (Brian Cox), an ex-military scientist, and rabidly anti-mutant, to handle the situation as he deems fit. Viewers later learn that Stryker has a personal ax to grind with Xavier, who was unable to "cure" Stryker's own son — a mutant himself. To Stryker, the only good mutant is a dead mutant; coexistence is not an option.

Armed with presidential marching orders, Stryker, along with a crack unit of commandos, storms Xavier's mutant school, capturing many of the campus' "gifted" students. After making mincemeat out of Stryker's special-ops, Wolverine escapes with several teen mutants.

Meanwhile, Storm and Jean Grey are dispatched by Dr. X to lasso Nightcrawler, whom they find holed up in a Boston church. Far from being a cold-blooded killer, Nightcrawler turns out to be a good-hearted and devoutly religious German mutant who suffered indignities as a sideshow attraction because of his freakish looks — and who has no recollection of the attack on the prez.

As if matters weren't complicated enough, Magneto's (Ian McKellen) alluring but ne'er-do-good stooge, Mystique (Rebecca Romijn-Stamos), a shape-shifting metamorph, springs him from the maximum-security prison in which he was incarcerated at the end of the first film. This plot twist sets the stage for the physical and philosophical battlefield pitting the mutant-hating Stryker against the human-hating Magneto, each hell-bent on the other's annihilation — with the balance of power in the hands, claws and forked tails of Xavier and his merry X-Men.

As in the original, Singer takes advantage of the motley crew's person-non-grata status to explore the theme of intolerance and its underlying cause: fear



CNS PHOTO FROM FOX SEARCHLIGHT

## 'Beckham' comedy salutes family, tolerance

Parminder Nagra and Keira Knightley star in a scene from "Bend It Like Beckham," a spirited cross-cultural comedy with themes of family, friendship, tolerance and teamwork. A discreet sexual situation and references, fleeting drunkenness, minimal profanity and a crass expression. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-II — adults and adolescents. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13 — parents are strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.

of the "different." The X-Men's commitment to protecting others — even those who consider them deviants and actively seek their destruction — echoes Christ's mandate to "love your enemies, and do good to those who persecute you." One of the heroes even pays the ultimate price, illustrating the Christian ideal of laying down one's life for one's friends.

The film is replete with religious imagery and allusions. Nightcrawler prays the rosary throughout the film, talks openly about angels and counsels other characters about the necessity of faith — even reciting the Our Father during an exceptionally harrowing sequence. His piety — which easily could have been dispensed with — comes across as genuine and is treated with a reverence rare in Hollywood fare.

The characters, though by and large true to the source material, are underdeveloped. Even McKellen and Stewart, actors of considerable caliber, come across as caricatures, lacking the depth exhibited in the original film.

Part of the problem lies in the fact that so much of the screen time is dedicated to bravura action sequences rather than character and narrative de-

velopment. Also, this film, unlike its predecessor, suffers from lack of background, making it difficult for viewers new to the franchise to keep score.

While "X2" treats itself seriously, it still does allow a few mordantly amusing moments. Though the film leans heavily on violent action sequences, they are couched in an unrealistic, comic-book style so as not to be taken seriously — though, understandably, their consequence-free, video-game nature may leave a bad taste in some parents' mouths.

Due to recurring comic book-style violence and some crass language, the USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-II — adults and adolescents. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13 — parents are strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.

DiCerto is on the staff of the Office for Film & Broadcasting of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.



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## The Pope Speaks

POPE JOHN PAUL II

### Pope says Spain trip shows Europe has retained its Christian soul

By CINDY WOODEN  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — Pope John Paul II said his May 3-4 visit to Spain made it clear that despite some outward negative signs, "the ancient nations of Europe retain their Christian soul."

At his May 7 weekly general audience, the pope said his trip to Madrid confirmed his conviction that Europe's traditionally Catholic countries still are profoundly Catholic.

"Secularism unfortunately threatens their basic values, but the church intends to work to continually maintain this spiritual and cultural tradition," he said.

Pope John Paul said he urged the Catholics of Spain "to remain faithful to the Gospel, to defend and promote the unity of the family and to protect and continually renew the Catholic identity which is the pride of the nation."

During his May 3 meeting with young people, he said, he encouraged Spanish youths to recite the rosary, using the contemplation of Christ to strengthen their faith and their commitment to living the Gospel in the world.

A "robust interiority," he said, is the best antidote to consumerism and to the superficial values that the modern world proposes.

The pope also said the five Spaniards he canonized May 4 are models for Christians around the world.

"Drawing the strength they needed from prayer, they were able to fulfill the tasks entrusted to them by God in the contemplative life, in pastoral ministry, in the field of education, in the apostolate of spiritual exercises and in charity toward the poor," he said.

## Women and war

Polls say that half the women in America did not oppose the George Bush war in Iraq. A March 30 New York Times Magazine article stated, "We cling to the image of women as peacemakers — even if it no longer really fits."

Fortunately, some reporting in the piece spoke about women's anti-war mobilization efforts, but readers were left to conclude that this was not the interest for the majority of America's women.

If this is true, it is a decided change from women's voices raised in times past when they argued for peace, like British social worker Emmeline Pethick-Lawrence, writing in 1914: "The bedrock of humanity is motherhood. Women, all the world over, speaking broadly, have one passion and one vocation, and that is the creation and preservation of human life."

She worked for international peace, believing, "Women can kill the war tradition if they will."

Nellie McClung, a Canadian teacher, protested how all the countries in World War I were preaching a false doctrine — that God was on their side — and she berated women for their passivity: "War is the antithesis of all our teaching. It breaks all the commandments, it makes strong men weak. It makes well men sick, and by it living men are changed to dead men."

"War is not of God's making. War is a crime committed by men and, therefore, when enough people say it shall not be, it cannot be. War proves nothing. To kill a man does not prove that he was in the wrong. War twists our whole moral fabric. War hardens us to human grief and misery."

Because World War I was so brutal, people who believed in life responded in shock. The war was made totally devastating because of the emerging technology that had produced new weaponry, machines in the air that could pour death down from above and chemicals that killed. So many people in all the involved countries questioned the war, begging for nations to end it, with loudest voices being those of women and true religious leaders, like Pope Benedict XV.

## The Bottom Line

ANTOINETTE BOSCO  
CNS COLUMNIST

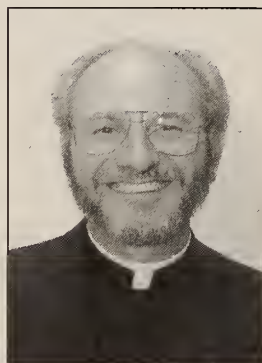


Alexandra Kollontai, a Russian woman, believed no one really knew what this war was about. She wrote, in words sounding so familiar during the U.S. attack of Iraq: "The German people were told, 'We will go and liberate Russia from the toils of bureaucracy, from the arbitrariness and lawlessness of the czar's officials. We are going to die for the liberty of the Russian people. Noble France decided to liberate the German people and put an end to the Kaiser. The English government decided to liberate a foreign country from the evil of militarism, and to impose the very same evil upon its own people.'"

Then she courageously expressed her disdain for war, saying, "War is being waged in the name of the 'right' of the great powers to oppress as many 'alien' peoples and rob as many colonies as possible. The war is being waged by predators in order to divide the spoils."

Women in World War I from all the fighting countries formed the Women's International Congress for Permanent Peace. Led in the United States by social reformer Jane Addams, the women were widely ridiculed as Peacettes who were traitors and cowards. Justice sometimes wins, and in 1931 she received the Nobel Peace Prize for her longstanding commitment to and efforts for peace.

Women know, as German pacifist Lida Heymann said, that the legacy of war is "the earth reeking of human blood," causing their hearts to "blaze up in anguish."



## Faith and the Marketplace

GLENMARY FATHER  
JOHN S. RAUSCH  
GUEST COLUMNIST

### A pilgrimage of listening

Before Joel Schrader ran for public office in Kentucky, he toured the eastern part of the state to better understand the issues. He joined a dozen people for four days visiting folks engaged in community development, environmental work and especially healthcare. Two vans in tandem wound down back roads to find small health clinics tucked away in isolated communities that serve the needs of low income and uninsured people.

Later, he wrote on his evaluation: "...every clinic we visited said most of their patients came to be treated for diabetes, high blood pressure and heart disease." He learned these diseases require regular medication and checkups, or they get worse.

Joel participated in the Pilgrimage to the Holy Land of Appalachia, an annual event that focuses not on visiting buildings and shrines, but on seeing the church in action, specifically people engaged in creative ministries. In 1975, the bishops of Appalachia issued a pastoral letter entitled, "This Land is Home to Me." While describing the plight of many devastated communities and the struggles of mountain families, the letter avoided answers, but humbly proposed a three-pronged direction for ministry: listening to the people, the careful use of social sciences and a steeping in the presence of the Holy Spirit. The annual pilgrimage designs its itinerary using these eyes of faith.

Unlike many mission trips that provide direct service or deliver rummage, the pilgrimage represents a ministry

of listening. Honoring someone's experience and reverencing their story represents a sacramental moment — God's presence in the encounter. Sister Bernie Kenny, a nurse practitioner, drives a mobile clinic throughout Dickenson County, Virginia, ministering to five mountain communities that have no other healthcare provider. Sister Sally Neale opened a women's resource center in Sandy Hook, Ky., where women learn marketable skills while building self-esteem. Every stop during the four days adds another story about the servant church.

Stories from the vulnerable also enter the mix. After years of abuse from her husband, Lucy (not her real name) had to leave, but had no car, no bank account, no plan. She connected with Resurrection Home, a safe house in Lee County, Ky., and slowly stabilized her life. After some time she began working with Sister Mary Kay Drouin, the founder. Sitting in Resurrection Home, Lucy passionately speaks to her circle of visitors.

"I want every woman who walks through that door to be treated like my daughter, not as myself, but my daughter," she emphasizes. In a sentence, Lucy demonstrates her transformation, and she feels affirmed by the reverence given her story.

Ultimately, the various stories weave themselves into patterns that beg the explanation of the social sciences. The Appalachian pastoral cautions, however, that social models are not value free, but must be infused "with wisdom and humility in the service of justice."

Stories about healthcare question a market solution with so many people denied access. Stories about family abuse suggest a more compassionate public policy. Additional stories about the environment, prisons and plant closings underscore the needed adjustments to soften the bite of deregulation, privatization and globalization. Based on stories and instructed by the Holy Spirit, the church offers its social teachings about appropriate government, common good, option for the vulnerable, care of creation and sustainable development.

Joel represents a participant of the pilgrimage who sees more clearly with the eyes of faith. He ended his evaluation with hopeful words: "The trip was very valuable to me and I am trying to use what I learned to make a difference."





## Light One Candle

**MSGR. JIM LISANTE**  
GUEST COLUMNIST

### Celebrating family celebrations

It's usually late autumn before most of us start thinking about holidays. That's perfectly reasonable, since Thanksgiving, Christmas, Hanukkah and New Year's Day all come one after the other. But this time of year, as spring slips into summer, we have celebrations, too, very personal ones. Graduations, weddings, anniversaries, reunions, all of these are in high season.

Just in time, too. I think we can all use some happy occasions right now. Turbulence and unrest in the world, tough economic conditions and concerns about the future and the present have made this a difficult period. So, it seems like a good thing to me when families, friends and neighbors get together for the simple pleasure of one another's company as well as the marking of some milestone.

I'm fortunate that I get to be part of many weddings and baptisms. These are momentous events not only for individuals, but for whole families. Still, there's no denying that a certain amount of stress and discomfort for at least some of the celebrants is almost a sure thing. The problems can range from hosts wondering how they are going to pay for the party ("Did we have to invite all your third cousins?") to guests who hate big events and wish they were back home ("I knew it would be too crowded! I could be

home watching the game."). Then, there are those in the family who say the wrong thing or drink too much or make a scene. Maybe it's a comfort knowing how much families have in common.

In spite of moments that are awkward or even painful, we usually do enjoy these events together — and with good reason. Most of us spend our time concentrating on our own day-to-day problems and concerns and those of the few people who are closest to us. The wider world — even of our own friends, relatives and neighbors — generally takes a back seat virtually all the time. That's why celebrations serve to remind us of our connections with people who are, at some level, part of the substance of our lives. Naturally, our perspectives change over time. Was it really so long ago we were talking with cousins about college plans, or doing our bit as young adults to keep an eye on the youngsters and lend an ear to the elders? These are the folks who see us grow up, the same ones we see change before our eyes from one occasion to the next.

I love watching the children. The little ones are often shy; a little older they get bored. One way or the other they fit themselves into the extended group. They are, I believe, comforted by the continuity and ritual around them. There is something reassuring when the generations gather, grandparents and godparents, an old family friend and the newest member of the family and everyone in between. We all have a place for ourselves in the world, and this is where it starts. As much as in our homes and schools and neighborhoods, here, too, we learn about human frailty and foibles and forgiveness. And we discover things we share in common with others and things we don't, about the power of love and of humor, about mortality and about immortality. And we, in turn, pass along the message.

The next time an invitation comes your way, allow your host to enjoy the honor of your presence and the pleasure of your company. And bring a gift, not just one you wrap up, but your best self. And have fun!

### Issues of belief in a mixed marriage

*Q. I am Catholic, my wife is Free Will Baptist. We have been married six years and have two children, ages 5 and nearly 3. Our oldest daughter was to enter kindergarten this fall at my parish.*

*My wife is now voicing objections to our children attending Catholic school. Specifically, she cites as one of her principal objections the Gospel of Matthew that we are to call no one on earth our father. I have asked for but have not received a definitive answer. Could you provide insight on why we call priests father? (Maryland)*

A. Yes I can. First, however, and more important, I think you must face the fact that, judging only from what you've told me, the issue between you and your wife at this point is most likely larger than simply whether we should call priests father.

There is more to it than that. The gap between your religious backgrounds involves differing beliefs and feelings about the Bible, sacraments, the church, prayer, Jesus, the Eucharist, even about the very meaning of salvation. These are the subjects that you will need to address.

I don't know, of course, what religious discussions you may have had over the past seven or more years, but obviously her discomfort with your religious faith is surfacing with this specific problem, as a start.

She's concerned as a mother about involving her children in a religious faith she obviously does not and cannot, at this time at least, understand. Has she been attending her church regularly? If you are practicing your faith, including weekly Mass and regular prayer, do she and your children share these activities with you?

Whatever the answer to these and similar questions, you need to sit down in some relaxed situation and ask yourselves what you really want in the line of religious and Christian life for your children. What does your own faith and/or hers offer to help your family become the kind of God-loving and Christ-centered people you wish it to be?

The Catholic Church urges that in the interest of greater understanding and unity, both mixed marriage spouses "should learn more about their partner's religious convictions and the teaching and religious practices of the church or ecclesial community to which he or she belongs."

## Question Corner

**FATHER JOHN DIETZEN**  
CNS COLUMNIST



To live out the Christian inheritance they share, prayer and Scripture study together are essential for the harmony of their home. (Catholic Ecumenical Directory of March 1993, No. 150)

Too often, wives and husbands who come into married life from different faith environments avoid the effort required for such conversations, both before and during their marriage, hoping that somehow things will work out.

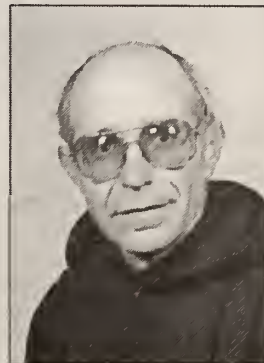
Lacking intelligent and committed discussion, things normally do not work out well, and a lot of unnecessary hurt and misunderstanding, possibly even serious disruption of the marriage, result. It's not too late for you and your wife to do what is needed to avoid this harm to yourselves and your children.

Whatever happens, your own responsibilities for your children's faith, which you promised before your wedding, continue. Take an active part in the Christian atmosphere of your home; do all you can by word and example to enable your family to appreciate the specific values of Catholic tradition; and be sure you are sufficiently informed about your own faith so you can explain and discuss it with your family.

We will send a copy of the question and answer from my book explaining why priests are called father. It may help you and your wife, but don't expect it to be the solution to your concerns over the religious education of your children.

## Guest Column

**FATHER JOHN AURILIA, OFM CAP**  
GUEST COLUMNIST



### Thoughts for spring

Do you want to make God laugh? Tell him your plans. Usually, our plans are always about "tomorrow," whereas the risen Lord uses the present tense, and the imperative form. He says: "Follow me." We say: "I will follow you, sir, but first let me go and say goodbye to my people at home or bury my father." Then, Jesus replies: "Leave the dead to bury the dead; your duty is to go and spread the news of the kingdom of God." (Lk. 9:59-60) St. Luke the evangelist quotes Jesus saying: "Once the hand is laid to the plow, no one who looks back is fit for the kingdom of God." (Lk. 9:61-62)

The dichotomy of today and tomorrow seems to have two different directions. Today is about business, tomorrow is about goodness. I have to see the doctor today, I have to do this financial transaction today, I have to go to the hairstylist today, I need to get paid today. The other side of the same page reads: "I will be kinder tomorrow, I will go to church next weekend, I will visit my friend at the hospital tomorrow, I will pray tomorrow."

It was Sunday, and the pastor of the rural church delivered a good sermon on the topic "Jesus walks on the water." The week after, he delivered another good sermon. The topic was "searching for Jesus." I wonder if he ever found him.

A good friend of mine, Albert, greeted me in front of the church, after the Easter liturgy. Since he is not a frequent worshipper, I took the opportunity to say, "Hey, Albert, you need to join the army of the Lord." Albert replied, "Father, I am already in the army of the Lord." I insisted with a friendly smile, "How come I don't see you except at Christmas and Easter?" Albert quickly said, "I am in the secret service."

I believe if we can restructure the dichotomy of today and tomorrow, we make God smile and our life more meaningful. We simply have to decide what or who really comes first. Standing undecided among priorities is not comfortable, because we are always left with a mountain of things to do tomorrow, without accomplishing anything today. Do you know what the word decide means? It comes from the Latin word "decider," which means "to cut off;" therefore, to decide for something is to cut off the options. Take one road and leave the other. The road to decision-making doesn't have to be painful and endless. God doesn't want to torment us; he wants us to be happy about our choices. Actually, I believe God has a good sense of humor; after all, he made Rush Limbaugh, did he not? I also believe that if we have no joy in our religion, there must be a leak in our Christianity somewhere.

*Father Aurilia is pastor of Immaculate Heart of Mary Church in Hendersonville.*



### Principal - Immaculate Heart of Mary School High Point, North Carolina

The Catholic Community of Immaculate Heart of Mary in High Point, NC, seeks an energetic, highly motivated individual with vision and initiative. Immaculate Heart of Mary is a K - 8 parochial school with a long-standing tradition of excellence. It was founded in 1947 and has flourished in its present facility for 55 years. At a current enrollment of 255, IHM is literally bursting at the seams with students and excitement. We pride ourselves on being the most technologically advanced Catholic educational facility in the Diocese of Charlotte and look forward to seeing the construction of a new school on the grounds of our new church in the next few years.

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### Principal - St. Raphael School

St. Raphael Catholic School, a Jesuit-affiliated elementary school, is seeking an enthusiastic and motivated leader for our community, beginning July 1, 2003. We are a SACS accredited, double track K - 8 school, with a projected enrollment of 450 students, housed in a brand new facility including a computer lab, media center, and science lab. Our principal must have the passion and leadership ability to help us continue to foster our commitment to academic excellence. The successful candidate must be a practicing Catholic and hold a master's degree, with at least three years' experience in teaching, school leadership, or administrative management. Applicants should hold, or be eligible to hold, a North Carolina Principal's Certificate.

If you are interested in joining our dedicated staff and talented student body, send by May 15th a letter of interest, current resume, and salary requirements to Saint Raphael Catholic School Search Committee, 5801 Falls of Neuse Road, Raleigh, NC 27609, or by fax to 919-865-5751, or via email to mdelacourt@nc.rr.com.

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Send letter, resume, three professional references, writing samples and salary requirements in confidence to:

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### DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRY

St. Leo the Great Catholic Church located in beautiful Winston-Salem is searching for a youth minister to continue an established Life Teen program centered on the Eucharist. We are seeking an enthusiastic, passionate, faith-filled individual to direct young people toward a meaningful, life-affirming journey with Christ.

If you are a Catholic with a college degree, have a strong spiritual, faith-based background, a passion for working with youth, and at least two years of practical experience as a youth minister, please consider this opportunity.

The Life Teen Mass is every Sunday at 5PM during the school year. Our awesome Life Teen band leads Praise and Worship songs, many original. We have a dedicated Core Team made up of singles and couples and a committed group of parent volunteers. Most important, however, are the 150 (and growing) young people who participate in our Spirit Night (Jr. Youth), Life Night (Sr. Youth), other activities and retreats. Also, recent additions to the Family Life Center feature a room dedicated to its youth, a Youth Minister's office, kitchenette and entertainment center.

The starting salary is competitive and negotiable depending on education and/or experience. Attractive benefit package, too. Please contact Jerry Felten, Director of Parish Operations, St. Leo the Great Catholic Church, 335 Springdale Avenue, Winston-Salem, N.C. 27104.

Phone: 336-724-0561. Fax: 336-724-7036.

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late Heart of Mary Parish, 4145 Johnson Street, High Point, NC, 27265. Visit our website at [www.ihmchurch.org](http://www.ihmchurch.org).

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## SUPPORT, from page 1

Every day after morning prayer, Principal Sandra McMonagle of Our Lady of Mercy School in Winston-Salem reads peace prayers written by students.

Sacred Heart School in Salisbury held a musical program featuring patriotic songs, "to show our patriotism and support," Principal Kathleen Miller said.

Miller believed it was important for students to show patriotism, because "as they get older, they understand the moral responsibility of being a good citizen."

Students at St. Leo School in Winston-Salem have written letters to their relatives and friends who are serving. In addition, the seventh-graders have designed colorful psalm booklets, which they are packaging to send to the troops.

"We have a prayer wall on which we've listed names of service personnel and a general petition for our troops and country. We pray daily for the intentions on the prayer wall," Principal Georgette Schraeder said.

Yellow ribbons have also been tied around several campus trees, Schraeder said, "as reminders of sacrifices being made for our country and freedom."

Students also start each class with a prayer for peace and, whenever the Pledge of Allegiance is said, they always end with "God Bless America."

Students at Our Lady of the Assumption School in Charlotte have collected money to buy phone cards for the troops. The students are also writing letters, according to Principal Patricia Murphy.

*Acting Editor Kevin E. Murray contributed to this story.*

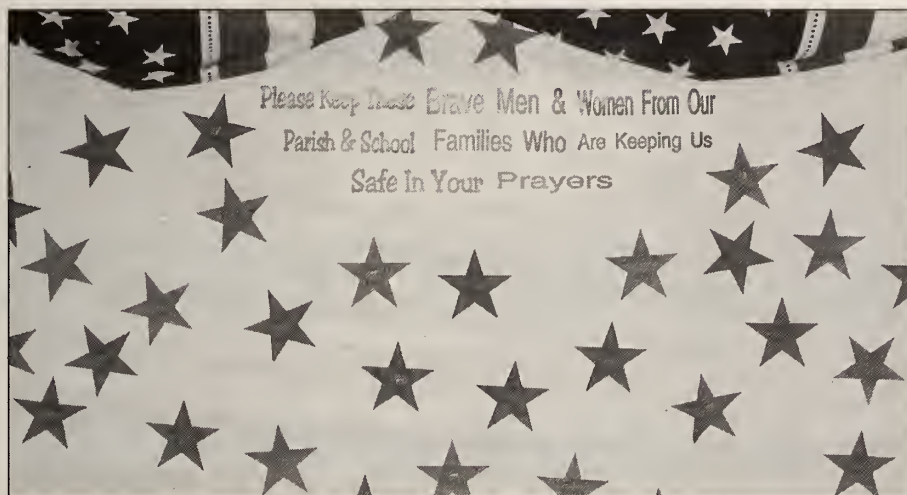


PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

Students and faculty at St. Gabriel School created a patriotic bulletin board reminding them to pray for family members in the armed services.

### CN&H wants to tell your story

*The Catholic News & Herald* is doing a faith-based story on families in the Diocese of Charlotte who have loved ones serving in the war with Iraq.

If you have a loved one overseas, or know someone who does, please contact Acting Editor Kevin E. Murray at (704) 370-3334 or e-mail [kemurray@charlottediocese.org](mailto:kemurray@charlottediocese.org).

### In our increasingly interconnected world,

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Put your faith into action on behalf of the children of Africa. Contact your Catholic Relief Services Diocesan Director, or Catholic Relief Services, to find out how you can make a difference.

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# Sister of Mercy devotes life to God's 'Holy Angels'

By MARY MARSHALL  
CORRESPONDENT

BELMONT — Mercy Sister Nancy M. Nance has fond memories of kneeling with her five sisters and brothers around her mother's bed in Alton, Ill., as she taught them their prayers.

But it was a Sister of Charity of Nazareth who chose the young Nancy to play a nun in an elementary school play, and said, "You'll make a good one some day." This planted the seed for Nancy's future vocation and perhaps sparked her love of the theatre.

At the time, "I passed that thought off real quickly," said Sister Nancy. "But in reality, the thought would surface; I would suppress it, thinking, 'I don't want to do that,' and go on with my busy life."

And her life was a busy one. She graduated from Western Kentucky University in 1974 with a bachelor's degree in mass communication with an emphasis on public relations and advertising and a minor in theatre. Following graduation, she worked in a men's clothing store and sold advertising for a radio station. She also did some on-air spots for the ads.

Her parents relocated from Bowling Green, Ky., to Salisbury while Nancy was in college. In 1976, she went to work in her father's clothing store and assisted with the buying; she traveled to New York twice a year and made time to visit the theatre. She was also active in theatre in Salisbury.

For the next six years, Nancy continued on with life but, every so often, the thought of a vocation surfaced.

"God has a way of getting his point across," said Sister Nancy. "So about a year before I entered the Sisters of Mercy, I figured it was time to start exploring orders, discerning and praying. I didn't want to look back some day and have regrets about what I was really supposed

to do with my life."

Her first inclination was to explore the Sisters of Charity of Nazareth, but after several inquiries she felt the order was bigger than what she was looking for.

"When a friend, Mercy Sister Susie Dandison, suggested I call the Sisters of Mercy in Belmont, I didn't even know who they were or where Belmont was," said Sister Nancy. "Mercy Sister Brigid McCarthy responded to my inquiry note in such a loving manner that I was anxious to follow up. When I visited, I fell in love with the order."

"I liked the charism, what they did, their hospitality, the fact that they all knew one another," she said. "At that time, they were primarily engaged in nursing, health care and education, but were beginning to branch out. I originally thought about parish ministry work."

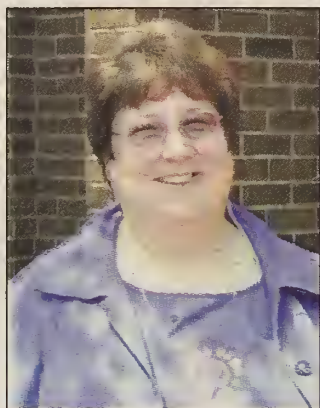
Sister Nancy didn't just jump into the water quickly. She discerned and prayed for a year, but soon she gave up her theatre connections, her job and sold her house, and started a new life at age 31.

She arrived at the Sisters of Mercy motherhouse on Sept. 8, 1982, and has never looked back.

"I know this is where God wants me to be — it's so rewarding in so many ways," she said. "I believe I've found what I'm supposed to do with the rest of my life."

She followed the normal first-year routine: attending classes and volunteering in various ministries, which introduced her to many things that she felt weren't for her. Ironically, when assigned to Holy Angels, a ministry providing services to adults and children with varying degrees of mental retardation, she would think of excuses to get out of volunteering.

"I had never been around anyone with disabilities," she said. "I was a nervous wreck, scared to death that I would hurt someone."



Mercy Sister  
Nancy M. Nance

She was assigned to St. Joseph Hospital in Asheville for nine months, where she was part of the community relations department. She later returned to Belmont when Regina Moody, president and CEO of Holy Angels, called her in 1983 to take photographs for a slide presentation.

That put Nancy on comfortable grounds — she was working with children for the best photo shot.

"Through the lens of a camera, I learned to see beyond the disability and picture the goodness in the person that God made," she said. "I began thinking I'd like to work here and asked for an assignment in 1985, and have been here ever since."

Sister Nancy took her temporary vows in 1985 and her final vows in 1990.

She refers to herself as "just one of the nuns," but there is much more to this nun who definitely walks the walk. It wasn't long before she was engrossed in her position as community relations director at Holy Angels.

Several years later, Sister Nancy and Mercy Sister Julia Godwin became teaching parents to three Holy Angels residents with mild to moderate retardation in one of Holy Angels' group homes. Today, Sister Nancy continues in this ministry by living with residents Robert, Lorraine, Martha

and Pam and overseeing the home.

With retail experience, Sister Nancy was the obvious choice to assist with operations when Holy Angels opened Cherubs Café in 1997 to give the young adults the opportunity to learn vocational skills in a business setting.

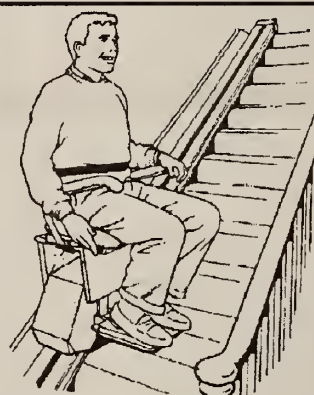
Sister Nancy now has dual responsibilities of Holy Angels' community relations and Cherubs operations directors.

"My ministry is so rewarding," said Sister Nancy. "I work with folks who wouldn't have a job if it weren't for Holy Angels. When I see their accomplishments compared to five or six years ago, it's amazing. I've watched their pride and self-esteem multiply."

"You can't help but see God in each of them. The simplicity of their lives serves as a great example to all," she said. "They put out the unconditional love God has for all of us."

On a recent visit to Ireland, where she visited the Mercy International Center in Dublin, Sister Nancy was profoundly affected by being where Catherine McAuley started the order.

"It was a very spiritual moment to walk where she had walked. I felt a connectedness," she said. "It brought it all together for me and gave me a deeper appreciation for the community and the charism of Catherine McAuley. It affirmed what I do as a Sister of Mercy."



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I will fulfill my vows before those who fear the LORD. The lowly shall eat their fill; they who seek the LORD shall praise him: "May your hearts live forever!"

Psalm 22:26-27

# The Catholic

## NEWS & HERALD

Seeking moral clarity on gambling

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MAY 16, 2003

SERVING CATHOLICS IN WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA IN THE DIOCESE OF CHARLOTTE

VOLUME 12 No 33

## Single defining moment? Hard to find just one in this papacy

*Pope John Paul II 'can't be labeled' for 25th anniversary*

By JOHN THAVIS

CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY (CNS)

— On a flower-decked stage at a Rome university, an all-star cast of Vatican officials opened what promises to be this year's most important ecclesial production: the 25th anniversary of Pope John Paul II's election.

The anniversary doesn't come around until mid-October, but by early May the

See PAPACY, page 4

## Campuses minister to all students

By KAREN A. EVANS

STAFF WRITER

CHARLOTTE — In between classes and social activities, some college students are also making the time to explore their faith, according to the office of campus ministry for the Diocese of Charlotte.

Every year, students at colleges and universities across the diocese are initiated into full communion with the Catholic Church during Easter Vigil services.

"College is a time for many young people to question the meaning of life and their pur-

See CAMPUS MINISTRY, page 15

# Refugees thrive in new homeland

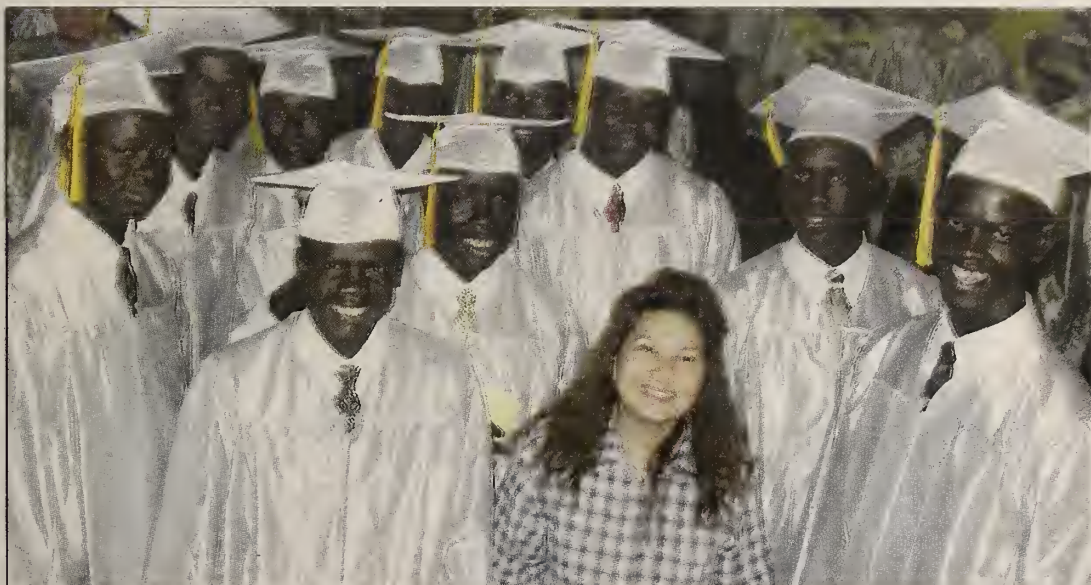


PHOTO BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

## 'Lost Boys' find new futures as graduates

Phuong Wright, Catholic Social Services case manager, stands with fourteen of the nearly 50 "Lost Boys of Sudan" resettled in Charlotte through CSS in 2001 who received diplomas from Central Piedmont Community College's adult high school at Cricket Arena May 14. The Lost Boys are among 4,000 young Sudanese refugees who escaped a civil war that has killed more than 2 million and displaced 4.5 million people.

## U.S. dioceses adapt to diverse immigrant flow, says bishops' office

### Diocese of Charlotte welcomes the 'stranger among us'

#### More Coverage

page 8 | Hispanics and the U.S. Catholic Church

page 9 | Russians, Ukrainians find refuge through CSS

By CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

BOGOTA, Colombia —

U.S. dioceses are expanding their programs to meet the needs of a linguistically and ethnically diverse flow of immigrants, according to a briefing paper prepared by the U.S. bishops' Migration and Refugee Services (MRS).

Between 600,000 and 900,000 immigrants legally enter the United States each year, and several hundred

thousand more enter illegally or overstay their visas, reported the MRS brief.

About 300,000 of the new arrivals each year are Catholics, it said.

The briefing paper was presented May 9 in Bogota at a meeting of North and South American church leaders responsible for migration issues. The U.S. delegation at the May 7-9 gathering was headed by Mark Franken, MRS executive

See MIGRATION, page 8

## Montagnards call N.C. home

*CSS provides on-going support*

By KAREN A. EVANS

STAFF WRITER

CHARLOTTE — The

Montagnard population in Charlotte is experiencing a mini-explosion, but it is not from additional refugees arriving from refugee camps in Cambodia. Instead, they are adding to their families the old-fashioned way. Since arriving almost a year ago, two bouncing baby American citizens have been born to Montagnard families, and four more are expected soon.

In June 2002, approximately 246 Montagnards arrived in Charlotte, and another 43 have immigrated since January. The refugees, whose homeland is the central highlands of Vietnam, are among several thousand Montagnards who have resettled in Charlotte.

Most of the refugees are Christian men who were forced to leave their families behind in Vietnam after the communist government crushed their protests over religious and political persecution and the taking of their tribal lands. Since February 2001, the refugees have stayed in two United Nations-administered camps in Cambodia until opportunities arose to resettle in the United States.

#### Adapting to a new world

"They are continuing to progress and adapt," said Ciria Ponce, director of the Catholic Social Services (CSS) Refugee

See MONTAGNARDS, page 9

Pope says he's tried to take Christ's message to all people

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Two books on women spiritual leaders

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Sisters of St. Joseph honored for 60 years of service in Triad

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### Bishops' spokeswoman urges passage of 'Laci and Conner's Law'

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The Unborn Victims of Violence Act must be approved by Congress to provide "new legal protections" for women and their unborn children, the U.S. bishops' chief pro-life spokeswoman said as the legislation was reintroduced in the House. Cathleen Cleaver, director of planning and information in the bishops' Secretariat for Pro-Life Activities, noted in a May 8 statement that the legislation is soon to be renamed Laci and Conner's Law in memory of Laci Peterson and her son, Conner, with whom she was eight months pregnant at the time of her death. "The murders of Laci and Conner Peterson have shocked the nation," Cleaver said. "Women and their unborn children deserve the new legal protections this bill offers." The legislation, reintroduced in the House and Senate May 7, would recognize an unborn child as a legal victim when he or she is injured during the commission of a federal crime of violence. The House has twice passed the bill but it has not come before the Senate.

### Indiana abortion law on informed consent finally takes effect

INDIANAPOLIS (CNS) — Indiana's 1995 informed consent law aimed at educating women about abortion procedures, risks and alternatives went into effect April 30, and an eight-year legal battle waged against it by abortion providers came to an end. Opponents of the measure were against its requirements that women seeking abortions wait 18 hours before getting the procedure and also receive counseling in person from medical personnel. They also argued it was unconstitutional. "The state's legitimate and compelling interests in protecting fetal life and maternal health justify the informed consent requirements of Public Law 187," Marion Superior Court Judge Gerald Zore said in his ruling. He called the law "a reasonable effort to encourage informed consent based on reflective thought in the abortion context."

## Pope reaches out to boy during ordination Mass



CNS PHOTO FROM REUTERS

Pope John Paul II reaches out to a boy during Mass May 11 in St. Peter's Basilica. The pope ordained 31 new priests during the service, which marked World Day of Prayer for Vocations.

### Church's ministry to homosexuals is spiritual, say speakers

ST. PAUL, Minn. (CNS) — Same-sex attraction is not the work of God but an "objective disorder" in a person's life that can be overcome through a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, a priest told pastors, counselors and seminarians in St. Paul. Father Donald Timone, spiritual director for a New York chapter of Courage, a church-sponsored ministry to homosexuals, spoke to the group in St. Paul April 25 in preparation for the national Courage conference Aug. 7-11 at

the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul. Father Timone said Courage "is not a therapy group or a social action group, but rather a spiritual support group" that helps men and women live a chaste life according to the Catholic Church's teachings on homosexuality. He said the group's goal is not to change a homosexual person into a heterosexual person, but to "bring them to Christ."

### Deacons' wives share in ministry, service to church

ERIE, Pa. (CNS) — Deacon Bob and Dorothy Hoover spent their 45th anniversary together on a recent Satur-

day, but not at a fancy dinner. They spent it in church at a first Communion and at a reception for one of the communicants. "We were doing our ministry," said Dorothy Hoover, who is the volunteer religious education coordinator at two churches in the Erie Diocese, St. Agnes Parish in Morrisdale and its mission, SS. Peter and Paul in Hawk Run. "It was one of those weekends," she said, adding that they planned to have an evening out soon to celebrate. In the city of Erie, Deacon Dave Pratt and his wife, Judy, spent the weekend playing host to their four children, their spouses and five grandchildren. A nephew got married, and Deacon Pratt performed the ceremony. The Pratts belong to St. Jude the Apostle Parish, Erie. For the wives of permanent deacons in the diocese, some family time has been replaced by ministry time, but two women married to deacons are positive about their lives and commitments.

### Canadian, U.S. bishops issue follow-up plan to vocations congress

OTTAWA (CNS) — The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops has published a pastoral plan to boost vocations to the ordained ministry and consecrated life in North America, giving priority to the "preferential option for the young." The 136-page document, "Conversion, Discernment and Mission: A Practical Guide for Fostering a Vocations Culture in North America," was the result of the Third Continental Congress on Vocations, held in Montreal in April 2002 and attended by 1,200 people, including church leaders from across Canada and the United States. The plan, published by the CCCB, was issued jointly by the Canadian and U.S. bishops' conferences. The CCCB said the plan is "a reflection and a guide for practical action, proposing strategies and answers to the question, 'How do we create and establish a vocations culture throughout the church in North America?'" The plan lists practical suggestions for bishops and community leaders of institutes for consecrated life, as well as members of the clergy and religious, parents and many others in the Christian community.

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## Diocesan planner

### Upcoming Parish Events May

**18 MOORESVILLE** — St. Therese Church, 217 Brawley School Rd., will host New Vibrations tonight at 7 p.m. in the Lewis Mack Parish Life Center. New Vibrations, an ecumenical touring youth choir, is a ministry of Idlewild Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church, Charlotte. The repertoire of sacred music ranges from contemporary to traditional to gospel. Admission is free and the public is cordially invited. Call Phil Haigler, director of music at St. Therese, at (704) 664-3992 ext. 106 for more information.  
**19 CHARLOTTE** — Christians in Career Transition is a ministry of St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy., devoted to helping people in career crises. The meetings will take place on the first and third Mondays of every month 7-9 p.m. in the conference

room. For more information, call Rev. Mr. Jim Hamrlik at (704) 576-0456.

**19 ASHEVILLE** — The St. Martin De Porres Pro-Chapter of the Dominican Laity will be meeting tonight and every third Monday at 7 p.m. in St. Justin's Center at the Basilica of St. Lawrence, 97 Haywood St. Inquirers are welcome. For more information, contact Beverly Reid, OPL, at (828) 253-6676.

**19 CHARLOTTE** — The Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians Division 1 Mecklenburg County-St. Brigid, an Irish-Catholic social and charitable inter-parish group, will meet tonight at 7:30 p.m. at St. Gabriel Church, 3016 Providence Rd. Anyone interested in their Irish-Catholic roots, call Jeanmarie Schuler at (704) 554-0720 for further information.

**20 WAYNESVILLE** — St. John the Evangelist Church, 234 Church Street, will spend three days in prayer in honor of Augustinian sister St. Rita of Cascia. Fr. James Wenzel, OSA, campus minister at Merrinack College and St. Rita scholar, will lead the parish community in these

three days of prayer. The schedule is as follows: Tuesday, May 20 and Wednesday, May 21: Mass at 9 a.m., dinner at 5:30 p.m., talk and triduum prayers at 7 p.m.; Thursday, May 22: no morning Mass, dinner at 5:30 p.m., Mass, blessing of the roses of St. Rita of Cascia and triduum prayers at 7 p.m., reception following Mass. For more information, call the parish office at (828) 456-6707.

**21 HUNTERSVILLE** — Natural Family Planning classes are being held the 3rd Wednesday of every month at 7 p.m. at St. Mark Catholic Church, 14740 Stumptown Rd., Room 200. Classes are taught by Dr. Matthew Harrison. All are welcomed to attend, no registration required. Call (704) 948-0231 for directions and more information.

**22 STATESVILLE** — The Sweet Adelines will perform at St. Philip the Apostle Church, 525 Camden Dr. The program will begin at 7:30 p.m. and will be followed by light refreshments. This performance is co-sponsored by St. Philip's Seniors Club and Knights of Columbus St.



**CCHD shows how church cares about everyday life, says official**

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (CNS) — To Joan Leahigh, the Catholic Campaign for Human Development, the U.S. bishop's domestic anti-poverty program, "shows how the church is integrated into everyday life." The work of the church is not just about the maintenance of people's faith through the sacraments or religious education, said Leahigh, who is the director of the social justice office of the Santa Fe Archdiocese and local CCHD director. "We have to use that faith and put it into action to build the kingdom," she told a group of journalists visiting New Mexico from the East Coast and Midwest. The journalists were on a "poverty tour" organized earlier this year by Father Robert Vitillo, CCHD executive director, and members of his staff to illustrate what the agency calls "America's forgotten state" — Poverty USA. Nearly 33 million people live in poverty in the United States, according to the 2000 census, and the state with the highest poverty rate is New Mexico. Almost 18 percent of its population lives below the poverty level.

**CMMB head says agency supports Bush's AIDS initiative**

NEW YORK (CNS) — The president of the Catholic Medical Mission Board said in an interview May 6 that he supported legislation to implement President Bush's proposal to allocate \$15 billion over five years for international programs dealing with AIDS. John F. Galbraith, interviewed at board headquarters in New York, said he expected the bill, introduced in the House by Rep. Henry J. Hyde, R-Ill., and passed by the chamber May 1, would also be passed by the Senate in something like its existing form. Although the legislation allows for a worldwide program, efforts are expected to focus on 12 countries of sub-Saharan Africa and two countries of the Western Hemisphere — Haiti and Guyana. To carry out the program, which would nearly triple current spending, the U.S. government and the countries receiving assistance will

## Family seeks refuge in drought-ridden western Afghanistan



CNS PHOTO BY MARTIN LUEDERS

A family of the nomadic Kuchi tribe rides a donkey through the dry, barren land of western Afghanistan in the province of Herat in March. Drought had killed off the family's livestock in an area where Catholic Relief Services was planning to establish water projects. As world attention was focused on the war in Iraq, Afghanistan was being forgotten, a CRS official said.

need the help of faith-based agencies that have experience and operating capacity in the target areas, Galbraith said.

**East Timorese bishop in United States seeking support for development**

WASHINGTON (CNS) — A fledgling, undeveloped judicial system and lack of human resources has delayed the progress of justice in East Timor, said the country's bishop. Bishop Basilio do Nascimento of Bacau said justice for victims of past violence was among several issues facing East Timor, which officially became an independent nation in May 2002. The bishop, visiting the United States May 4-10 to promote development, said justice has eluded the Timorese because of the lack of resources. "The general feeling of the East Timorese is that we need reconciliation, but this doesn't mean we have to avoid justice," he told Catholic News Service May 5. Bishop do Nascimento, who was named apostolic administrator of Dili last November following the retirement of Bishop Carlos Filipe Ximenes Belo, said East Timor has struggled with its transition to a democracy. "Democracy is a new concept to us. We

have no idea of the duties of each other in this new society," he said.

**Screenwriters hope Washington visit can dispel mistrust of Hollywood**

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (CNS) — A contingent of Christian writers and producers from Hollywood traveled to Washington in late April to tell the capital's decision-makers to, in essence, use less stick and more carrot when dealing with Tinseltown. Holding the industry accountable for what some find objectionable "should be one-third" of the verbiage coming from Washington, said Barbara Nicolosi, program direct of the Act One screenwriting workshops for Christians who want to write in Hollywood. "But two-thirds should be affirmation of the good," she added in an interview with Catholic News Service in Beverly Hills. "It's like raising a 14-year-old child. You wouldn't tell your child, 'You're an evil, rebellious demon child poisoning our family.' You would strive to find a common value that you support and then build on that whole edifice of character. And that's what we really need to do."

**Pope marks feast of St. Stanislaus, his predecessor in Krakow**

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Although he died more than 900 years ago, the life and ministry of Poland's patron, St. Stanislaus of Krakow, continue to remind Poles that their identity and national unity rest on the nation's Christian values, Pope John Paul II said. The pope marked St. Stanislaus' May 8 feast day and the 750th anniversary of the martyr's canonization with a letter addressed to his former Archdiocese of Krakow and to the Catholic Church in Poland. St. Stanislaus served as bishop of Krakow for seven years in the 11th century; Pope John Paul served as bishop of the city from 1964 to 1978. The saint's enduring lesson, the pope said, is that "the moral order, respect for God's law and for the rights of each person are the fundamental conditions for the existence and development of every society."

James Council #7152. For more details, call the church office at (704) 872-2579.

**25 ASHEVILLE** — St. Eugene Church, 72 Culvern St. will host a modern praise and worship service tonight at 7 p.m. after mass. Make your own joyful noise unto the Lord along with our "Voices of Praise." We will lift up the Lord in song, prayer, reflection and faith sharing. Take this opportunity to draw nearer to God with us. Questions? Call Doug at (828) 253-8971.

**25 HENDERSONVILLE** — The St. Francis of the Hills Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order will meet today 3-5 p.m. at Immaculate Conception Church, 208 7th Ave. West. Visitors and inquirers are welcome, so for more information, call Helen Gillogly, SFO, at (828) 883-9645.

**26 GREENSBORO** — St. Paul the Apostle Church is holding a Memorial Day book/CD/video sale and silent auction today. The sale and auction will be 10 a.m.-2 p.m. and again 5:30-7:30 p.m. An Italian/Mexican dinner will be served 6-7:30 p.m. Tickets for the dinner will be

pre-register.

**28 GUILFORD COUNTY** — The Ancient Order of Hibernians Guilford County Division, the oldest and largest order of Irish Catholic men, is looking for more Irish Catholic men to join them for meetings, educational seminars and social events. Contact Michael Slane at (336) 665-9264 for time and location.

**30 GREENSBORO** — 'Go and Tell,' the annual Catholic Renewal Conference, featuring Rev. Tom Forrest, CSSR, international director of Evangelization 2000, will be held May 30-June 1, at Greensboro College, 815 West Market Street. Speakers also include Rev. Christopher Davis of Reidsville and Mrs. Hannah Hammer of Greensboro. On-campus housing, meals and childcare are provided. For registration information, contact Melodie Manna at (336) 760-1110.

**31 SALISBURY** — School of Leaders will meet at Sacred Heart Church today 9-11:30 a.m., following the 8 a.m. Mass. There will also be a Secretariat meeting 1-2:30 p.m. For more information, call Dan

Hines at (704) 544-6665 or visit [www.charlottecursillo.org](http://www.charlottecursillo.org). To receive Cursillo information via e-mail contact [bmayer@alltell.net](mailto:bmayer@alltell.net).

**June**

**1 CHARLOTTE** — The St. Maximilian Kolbe Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order will be gathering today at 2 p.m. at Our Lady of Consolation Church, 2301 Statesville Ave. Those interested in learning more about the SFO and the Franciscan way of life are invited to attend. For more information, call Skyler Harvey, SFO, at (704) 545-9133.

**1 SALISBURY** — Sacred Heart Church, 128 N. Fulton St., will be celebrating a charismatic and healing Mass today at 4 p.m. Prayer and worship with prayer teams will be available at 3 p.m., and a potluck dinner will follow the Mass. Father John Putnam, pastor, will be the celebrant. For further information, call Bill Owens at (704) 639-9837.



## PAPACY, from page 1

speeches were already flowing and the analyses taking shape. The confab at Lateran University was the first of many conferences, seminars, round tables and book presentations that will commemorate the event.

The pope, who's never made a big deal of personal anniversaries, is planning to upstage himself by beatifying Mother Teresa Oct. 19. That's right between the dates marking his election, Oct. 16, and inauguration Mass, Oct. 22.

But others envision a big anniversary party. Vatican sources said the world's cardinals are being invited to Rome for the festivities, and thousands are expected to make the trip from the pope's native Poland, too.

Italy, which considers Pope John Paul an adopted son, has announced it is celebrating the "happy marriage" between the Polish pope and Italian culture in a series of programs to take place in 25 cities around the world.

The Lateran University conference kicked it all off, and the place was lit up with red beanies — more than a dozen cardinals and current and former heads of Vatican offices took the rostrum and tried to give Pope John Paul's papacy a focused appraisal.

One initial conclusion: People can expect to hear the words "interpretive key to this pontificate" a lot in coming months. Everyone's trying to find one, but with this pope it's not such a simple job.

For one cardinal, the key is the pope's missionary drive. For a Polish bishop, it's his links to St. Stanislaus, the Polish martyr. One scholar cited the pope's special and early interest in married love as a central element of this papal ministry. Others pointed to his Marian devotion or his penchant for saint-making or his teaching ministry as reflected in his 14 encyclicals.

Those who would interpret the last 25 years through the lens of "anti-communism" would misread the pope, said Bishop Rino Fisichella, rector at Lateran University and host of the conference. He noted that the pope has said his whole approach to the human person was "not born on the terrain of polemics with Marxism."

A journalist said communication was the key to this pontificate. A theologian said it was the concept of self-transcendence, along with the relationship between truth and freedom.

The more people talked, the more difficult it seemed to find a single defining angle or perspective to this papacy. This is a pope, after all, who has visited synagogues and mosques, preached Christ as the only savior, redrawn firm lines against dissent in the church and excommunicated self-styled "traditionalists." He's asked forgiveness for church mistakes through the centuries, yet insisted that the church has a right and duty to press its moral teachings in modern politics.

A survey of the last 25 years reveals many important moments and many historic gestures in different directions. As one academic put it, the perfect label for this pontificate is: "Can't be labeled."

Vittorio Messori, an Italian writer

# Pope says he has tried to take Christ's message to all people

By JOHN THAVIS

CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — Pope John Paul II said an important theme of his nearly 25 years as pope has been trying to bring Christ's liberating message to people in all walks of life.

The pope made the remarks in a meeting May 9 with participants in a Rome conference that aimed to review the first quarter-century of his pontificate from a variety of pastoral and theological perspectives.

In his short speech, the pope did not present a review of his papacy, but offered a few thematic pointers.

"In every phase and stage of my university life and pastoral ministry, one of the essential points of reference for me was attention to the human person, who is at the center of any philosophical or theological investigation," he said.

For that reason, he said, he found the theme of the conference appropriate: "The Church at the Service of Man." He said that 24 years ago, in his first encyclical, "Redemptor Hominis," he emphasized that the path of the church's mission runs through the daily lives of human beings.

"The message of the Gospel is for every person of every race and culture,

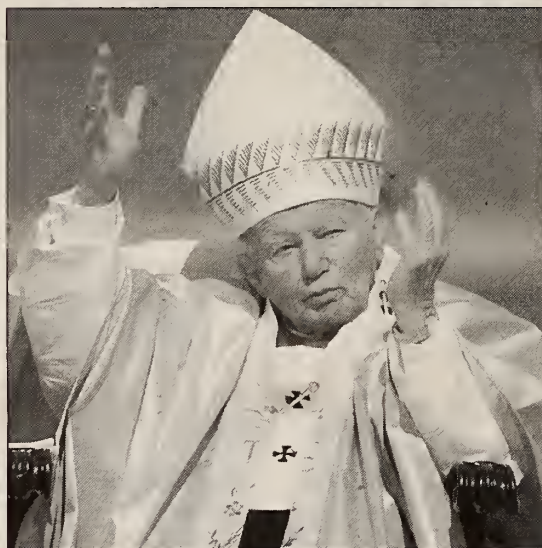
so that it can be a beacon of light and salvation in the various situations in which one lives," he said.

In a sense, the church's mission is to lead people to know themselves better and thus recognize a link with Christ, he said.

"Christ is the truth that frees those who seek him with sincerity and perseverance. He is the truth the church proclaims tirelessly in different ways, spreading the single Gospel of salvation to the ends of the earth and inculturating it in the various regions of the world," he said.

The conference, sponsored by Rome's Lateran University, featured more than 20 speakers, many of them top Vatican officials who have worked at the pope's side for many years. It was the first major retrospective on the pontificate, which marks the end of its 25th year in October.

Vatican officials have said that all the world's cardinals will be invited — though not formally convoked by the pope — for the 25th anniversary celebrations in Rome. No official program of events has been announced.



CNS PHOTO FROM REUTERS

## Pope waves during general audience

Pope John Paul II waves to pilgrims in St. Peter's Square during his general audience May 7. The pontiff turns 83 years old May 18 and will celebrate his 25th anniversary as pope in October.

The church that has grown up under Pope John Paul was probably better viewed on the other side of the speakers' platform: men and women from many cultures and continents.

In the audience was a Congolese seminarian, Gabriel Mukewa, who was 2 years old when the pope was elected in 1978. He said he decided to become a priest after the pope came to his city in 1985 and asked young people to leave room in their thoughts for a priestly or religious vocation.

He's been thinking about what the pope said ever since, said Mukewa, who expects to be ordained next year. For the young African and for millions of people, that's the key to this pontificate — the pope's ability to make a personal connection in a global setting.

"I still remember singing at his Mass. And I remember how he spoke our language, Swahili. That's what amazed everyone," Mukewa said.

## Pope explains teachings well, says official

ROME (CNS) — Unlike popes who reigned before the 20th century, Pope John Paul II does not simply invoke his authority when teaching about faith and morals, but offers multiple arguments to explain his position, said the undersecretary of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith.

U.S. Dominican Father Augustine Di Noia said Pope John Paul "has been extremely reluctant to say, 'Believe this because I say it,' but rather offers arguments."

Speaking May 8 about the "ecclesial vocation of the theologian," Father Di Noia said changes in the way theologians work and in the way their work is perceived by the Catholic faithful have led to changes in the way the magisterium — the church's teaching authority — is exercised.

For centuries, he said, the pope and bishops rarely invoked the magisterium.

The change, he said, can be seen in Pope John Paul's 1995 encyclical "Evangelium Vitae" ("The Gospel of Life"). The encyclical is one of the longest ever written by a pope, "yet its doctrinal core is brief," Father Di Noia said.

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# Intrepid sixth-grader buzzes through geography bee

By KEVIN E. MURRAY  
ACTING EDITOR

GASTONIA — Jack Collier, a sixth-grader at St. Michael School, was one of 100 North Carolina students to compete in the state finals of the National Geographic Bee in Raleigh April 4.

The National Geographic Society sponsors the national contest in which thousands of schools participate each year. The competition, started in 1989, is designed to spark student interest in the subject and increase public awareness about geography. Schools with students in grades four through eight are eligible to participate.

Collier won his class contest, then won his school contest before passing a written test to become one of the final 100 out of 35,000 hopefuls for the state competition. He was also the only student from

participating Gastonia schools to make it to the state finals.

"He's a hard-working young man," said Principal Joe Puceta. "I think it's a good accomplishment for a sixth-grader."

Collier's other accomplishments include being an honor student, a junior Beta Club member and student council treasurer. He won first place this year in the school's American Mathematics Competition. His parents were happy he made it to the geography bee finals, but they admitted it wasn't entirely unexpected.

"Geography is his thing," said mom Annemarie. "He knows more geography than I do."

At the state finals, students were asked 10

questions — contestants with the most correct answers progressed to the final round; that round's winner joined the lucky few from around the country to proceed to the national competition in Washington.

"Jeopardy!" game show host Alex Trebek moderates the national bee in which students compete for a \$25,000 college scholarship and the honor of being national champion.

Collier didn't proceed to the national competition, but came in "somewhere in the middle of the pack" with six out of 10 questions answered correctly, according to his mother.

"I was extremely proud," she said. "He really does know his stuff."

Collier expects to compete again next year.

The national finals will air May 21 on the National Geographic channel. For more information, visit: <http://www.nationalgeographic.com/channel/>



Jack Collier

## Extending the hand of friendship



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

*"Whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me." Matthew 25:40*

Jason Watson, a parishioner at St. Matthew Church, and Gene Giggs, a former resident of the Charlotte Uptown Men's Shelter build shelving units in the shelter's clothing storage area April 26. Parishioners from St. Matthew Church have spent several Saturday mornings in recent months working with the residents of the shelter and other volunteers, sorting and organizing donated clothing items.

The Uptown Men's Shelter provides shelter, food, clothing and services for up to 200 adult homeless men. Services offered to residents include an emergency services program and three transitional living programs.

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## Leading the march

CHARLOTTE — The Charlotte Catholic High School concert and marching bands led the way in a music competition held in Atlanta, Ga., May 3.

Charlotte Catholic's bands took home from the competition, involving 25 bands from throughout the eastern United States, awards and recognition in the following categories:

First Place in Concert Band, Division AA; First Place in Jazz Band, Division AA; First Place in Marching Band, Division AA; First Place in Concert

Band, all divisions; First Place in Marching Band Music Award; First Place in Marching Band, all divisions.

Dr. Stanley Michalski, coordinator of instrumental music for Mecklenburg Area Catholic Schools, commended band director David Shoff for his "efforts in preparing the students and providing them with this unique opportunity to hear other musical organizations and to enable our students to demonstrate the quality of the band program at Charlotte Catholic High School."

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Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte

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### 1948 photo of Eleanor Roosevelt with human rights declaration

Eleanor Roosevelt holds a copy of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which she presented to the United Nations. Catholic law professor Mary Ann Glendon said Roosevelt, wife of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, made a point of linking religious freedom and the human rights project. The General Assembly of the United Nations adopted the declaration Dec. 10, 1948. Among the articles it recognized was that "everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion."

### Pope's 100th trip to take him to Croatia for beatification, liturgies

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The 100th foreign trip of Pope John Paul II's pontificate will take him across the Adriatic Sea to Croatia to beatify a 20th-century nun and to celebrate liturgies in four towns. The centerpiece of the June 5-9 trip will be the June 6 beatification of Sister Maria Petkovic, founder of the Daughters of Mercy. The Croatian nun, who lived 1892-1966, will be beatified in Dubrovnik. According to the trip schedule released May 9 by the Vatican, the pope also will celebrate liturgies in the towns of Osijek, Rijeka and Zadar and will visit the Dakovo cathedral and the Trsat Marian shrine, which tradition

holds as the temporary 13th-century site of the Holy House of Loreto. According to legend, the small building was Mary's house in Nazareth, and angels later flew it to Loreto on the other side of the Adriatic. The pope will spend each night of his visit at the Rijeka archdiocesan seminary and will receive Croatia's president, prime minister and bishops there.

### Pope to make one-day trip to Bosnia for beatification of lay activist

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The Vatican has confirmed Pope John Paul II will make a one-day trip to Banja Luka, Bosnia-Herzegovina, to celebrate Mass and beatify a native of the city. The trip will take place June 22, the Vatican press

office announced May 8, and will include the beatification of Ivan Merz, a Bosnian Croat, who was born in Banja Luka in 1896. A lay activist and liturgical pioneer in the region, Merz died of meningitis at the age of 31 in Croatia. A veteran of World War I, he spent the last years of his life in Zagreb, Croatia, teaching French and German at a Catholic elementary school.

### Woman had no time to run, scream or pray in face of tornado

KANSAS CITY, Kan. (CNS) — As she stood in her living room, Helen DeSpain didn't have time to run, scream or pray before the room simply exploded. "I looked to the left, and then I looked right, and then my house was gone" in a tornado that bore down on her neighborhood May 4, DeSpain told The Leaven, newspaper of the Archdiocese of Kansas City. Tornadoes, hail "as big as softballs" and flood-inducing rains rolled through eight states in the Midwest and South. "The sofa was gone," said DeSpain, a member of St. Patrick Parish in Kansas City. "The baby was gone." But DeSpain found the child, Esperanza (Spanish for "hope"), with her head pinned under a stereo speaker and collapsed wall, flailing. When she went still, DeSpain said, she "just pulled her as hard as I could." Miraculously, Esperanza only suffered bruises and cuts. She and her mother were among 22 who went to nearby Providence Medical Center for tornado-related injuries.

### New Testament figure shows how to teach faith, speaker says

ST. PAUL, Minn. (CNS) — To guide people on the road to understanding and embracing the Christian faith, catechists attending an annual conference were urged to take some pointers from a New Testament example. Father Michael Byron, an associate professor of dogmatic theology at St. Paul Seminary, told participants attending the National Conference of Catechetical Leadership May 4-8 in St. Paul to particularly focus on the story of Philip and a societal outcast found in the Acts of the Apostles. He said Philip's reaching out to the Ethiopian

eunuch, described in Acts 8:26-40 as "a man defined by his shame" and considered worthless by society, offers a lesson in how Christians can reach out to others in their mission to spread the Gospel of Jesus. Philip "agreed to attend to whatever came along his way," Father Byron told about 800 catechists during a May 4 keynote address. The priest said the passage was also an example of the Holy Spirit creating new possibilities for catechesis, noting that God "sends us out into the ditches for the nobodies, for the throwaways" and that all disciples "are required to follow Philip's lead."



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# Swinging into action

*Bishop McGuinness students help Room at the Inn*

By REV. MR. GERALD POTKAY  
CORRESPONDENT

KERNERSVILLE — Two groups of Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School students rallied together to help sponsor the inaugural Amy Elizabeth Disney Golf Tournament at Pine Tree Golf Course May 7.

Proceeds from the event went to the Room at the Inn of the Triad, Inc., an abstinence-based, non-denominational home for expectant unwed mothers, located in Greensboro.

The two student groups — "Seamless Garment," dedicated to respecting all life from conception to death; and "Peer Ministry," dedicated to assisting other students wherever there is a need — came up with the idea of the golf tournament. The students sought donations from fellow students during Lent and raised \$1,065 for Room at the Inn.

"The second home for Room at the Inn, which is going to be an exodus home for those women who, once their babies have been born and find difficulties in getting reintegrated, have a place to stay until they can get on their own," said Patty Disney, a Room at the Inn board of director. "This second house ... will be named the Amy Elizabeth Disney House, after our daughter."

Amy Elizabeth, daughter of Patty and Francis Disney, parishioners of St. Paul the Apostle Church in Greensboro, died several years ago.



PHOTO BY REV. MR. GERALD POTKAY

Bishop McGuinness High School students Lee Mitchell and Mike Ruggieri practice before the Amy Elizabeth Disney Golf Tournament at Pine Tree Golf Course in Kernersville May 7.

"Bishop McGuinness always finds positive ways to help unborn children because they have a commitment to life and the unborn," said Albert Hodges, executive director of Room at the Inn of the Triad. "We at Room at the Inn of the Triad are very grateful to the students and staff of Bishop McGuinness High School for all of their efforts on behalf of Room at the Inn and the pregnant women we are able to help."

Contact Rev. Mr. Gerald Potkay by calling (336) 427-8218 or e-mail [gpotkay@triad.rr.com](mailto:gpotkay@triad.rr.com).



COURTESY PHOTO

## Striking the right chords

Junior Nate Osborne, junior Riley Morgan and freshman Belews Creek of Bishop McGuinness High School in Kernersville were invited to participate in Western Carolina University's Honors Band Festival held on campus April 4-5. The festival, an intensive weekend of rehearsals and performances, brought together some of the most talented high school musicians in North Carolina.

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## MIGRATION, from page 1

director.

The meeting was organized by the Bogota-based Latin American bishops' council to examine how the church can better coordinate efforts with governments and other private agencies to improve conditions for migrants and refugees.

"Today, 11 percent of the people living in the United States were born in another country," the MRS brief said.

"Demographers project that by 2020 Hispanics could represent the majority of the U.S. Catholic population," it said.

The MRS brief said that Los Angeles ranks just behind Mexico City and Guadalajara in the number of residents of Mexican origin, and that Chicago has almost as many Polish residents as Warsaw.

"Some of the most dramatic demographic changes have occurred in rural towns and small cities," it said.

"In the Diocese of Raleigh, N.C., in 1990, two parishes offered Mass in Spanish. Today, 42 parishes have Spanish-speaking Masses," it said.

In the Diocese of Charlotte, 41 out of 91 parishes and missions reported offering Spanish Masses in 2001, according to the diocesan Office of Planning.

"The vicariate coordinators are working with the pastors and parishes in any way they can to create a welcoming atmosphere for Hispanics," said Franciscan Sister Andrea Inkrott, director of Hispanic Ministry in the Diocese of Charlotte.

Masses in Spanish, said Sister Andrea, are just the first step and many

other ministries are following, such as faith formation, youth ministry, Bible study and more. Coordinators are also trying to keep alive the various traditions of the Hispanics' countries, she said.

"Certain aspects of religious symbolism are especially important to Hispanics in that they establish a connection with their experience of the Catholic Church in their country of origin," according to "Hispanic Ministry in the United States," produced by the U.S. bishops' Secretariat for Hispanic Affairs.

"Familiar music is an important element of their Catholic devotion," said the document. "The celebration of Marian feasts is also central to Hispanics' religious practices and expression."

The Hispanic population of western North Carolina is estimated to rise from 235,829 in 2000 to 851,876 by 2050. The Office of Planning also reports an increasing number of individuals from Southeast Asia joining the traditional African-American, Native American and European cultures in the Diocese of Charlotte — particularly in the Charlotte area.

To respond to the influx, the diocese established the Hispanic Cultural Center in 1993; the center moved to larger facilities in 2001 to accommodate Charlotte's growing Hispanic community. St. John Lee Korean Church was established in 1994 and serves almost 300 members. St. Joseph Vietnamese Church was dedicated in 1999 and now serves 1,500 Vietnamese Catholics.

This continuing national influx challenges the church "to pastorally welcome newcomers in ways that are responsive to their cultural and linguistic heritage and expand its resources available to assist immigrants in their transi-

tion through social and legal services programs," said the MRS brief.

"We're the Catholic Church, and 'catholic' means 'universal,'" said Sister Andrea. "The church is for everyone."

The MRS brief said the U.S. church outlined its approach in the 2000 pastoral letter, "Welcoming the Stranger Among Us: Unity in Diversity," which asks Catholics to be more welcoming of immigrants, to develop a greater awareness of immigrant needs and to be more supportive of immigrants.

The bishops' letter has been translated into 12 languages, it said.

The U.S. bishops earmarked \$1 million to provide training and small grants

to diocesan officials to help them start new programs or expand existing efforts, it said.

"It can't be a bilingual effort. We have to be multicultural," said Sister Andrea. "We have more and more cultures coming into our country every day."

The brief said that MRS has organized regional meetings of diocesan officials and has provided informational kits to 19,000 U.S. parishes with copies of the 2000 pastoral letter, resource materials and suggested activities for parishioners.

*Acting Editor Kevin E. Murray contributed to this story.*

# Hispanics and the U.S. Catholic Church

*Information taken from "Hispanic Ministry at a Glance," by the U.S. bishops' Secretariat for Hispanic Affairs.*

## Hispanic growth in the United States

According to the official 2000 Census, there are 35.3 million Hispanics in the United States, or 12.5 percent of the total population. Since 1990, the nation's Hispanic population has increased 58 percent, up from a total of 22.4 million in 1990. Almost 38 percent of Hispanics in the United States are under the age of 18; 59 percent are 18-64 years of age.

Between 1990 and 2000, the Hispanic population more than tripled in North Carolina, as well as Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Nevada, South Carolina and Tennessee.

## The term "Hispanic"

The term "Hispanic" was used during the 1970 Census and was adopted by church leadership of the time to help define a people with a common identity, vision and mission. It has been integral to the historical memory of Hispanic ministry since 1970 and continues to be used in the church today.

In recent years, the term "Latino" has become widely used by church and community leaders, particularly in urban areas. It is a self-identifying term that has emerged from the community and is embraced by the church.

## Hispanic Catholics in the United States

Approximately 39 percent — or 25 million of the nation's 65 million — of U.S. Catholics are Hispanic. A recent study indicated that 72.6 percent of all Hispanics living in the United States are Catholic. Sixty-four percent of all His-

panics attend church services regularly.

Since 1960, Hispanics have accounted for 71 percent of the Catholic growth in the United States.

## Hispanics and vocations

Over six percent — or 2,900 — of the nation's 46,000 priests are Hispanic. Of these 2,900 Hispanic priests, 500 were born in the United States. Fifteen percent of the priests ordained in 2002 were Hispanic.

There are 9,925 Hispanic Catholics per Hispanic priest, while there are 1,230 Catholics per priest in the general Catholic population.

Thirteen percent of current seminarians — or approximately 500 — are Hispanic. Nine percent — or 25 — of the nation's 281 active bishops are Hispanic. Archbishop Patrick Flores was named the first U.S. bishop in 1970.

## Reaching out to Hispanics

The U.S. Catholic Church's response has been guided by a process of consultation, which has led to the development of pastoral letters and statements such as "Encuentro and Mission: A New Pastoral Framework for Hispanic Ministry" (2002).

More than 150 dioceses and 4,000 local parishes and Catholic agencies currently serve Hispanic Catholics. In addition, pastoral institutes for the formation and training of Hispanic lay leaders exist at the local diocesan, regional and national levels. Twenty-five percent of all participants in lay formation programs in the United States are Hispanic. An increasing number of bishops now require their seminarians to learn Spanish as they anticipate the growing Hispanic Catholic population.



PHOTO BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

A boy sits in his father's lap during the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe celebration Mass at St. Mark Church in Huntersville Dec. 12, 2002. The feast day celebrates the apparitions of Mary to a devout Native Indian, Juan Diego, in Mexico in December 1531. As a result of the apparitions, eight million Mexicans converted to Catholicism within a few years.

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# Building the American dream

*Russians, Ukrainians find refuge through Catholic Social Services*

By DIANNE M.A. RIGGS  
CORRESPONDENT

ASHEVILLE — Imagine bringing your family to the United States and not knowing English or local customs. The simplest tasks would be impossible: registering your children for school; calling for a taxi; leasing an apartment.

This was the situation for Svetlana Gundorin and her husband and three children when they arrived in Asheville from southern Russia in 1993. There were no interpreters, no refugee services. Gundorin did not even know the alphabet. Thankfully, she did have her parents, who had immigrated a few years earlier and spoke some English.

Things are different today for similar refugees, at least in the western North Carolina counties of Buncombe, Henderson and Madison. Gundorin is now the Catholic Social Services Western Regional Office's caseworker for Russian and Ukrainian refugee resettlement. She also serves as an interpreter for the Department of Social Services (DSS).

Over the years, Gundorin has worked hard to achieve her "American dream." Soon after arriving in Asheville, she cleaned houses for several families, attended English as a Second Language classes and took business administration and accounting courses.

By 1996, Gundorin owned her own business offering tax preparation and bookkeeping for several small businesses. She also did work helping to complete immigration forms.

Her husband is now pastor of Glory of Christ, one of two 300-member Baptist-Pentecostal churches in Asheville, which hold services in Russian.

Freedom is the most treasured gift of America for Gundorin.

"You can open your own business and the government will help you," she said, her Russian accent still present. "People are so friendly."

The friendliness of Americans still amazes her; they smile so much. In Russia, she said, no one ever smiles on the street.

Gundorin's American dream was fully realized when, two years ago, she became a U.S. citizen.

Her work with Catholic Social Ser-



PHOTO BY DIANNE M.A. RIGGS

Anna and Ivan Gritskan, refugees from Moldova, a small country on the southwestern border of Russia, talk with Svetlana Gundorin (right), a caseworker with Catholic Social Services Western Regional Office.

vices began in July 2002.

Currently, Gundorin serves 72 "cases," or 360 refugees, for Catholic Social Services. There are approximately 5,000 Russian/Ukrainian refugees in the Buncombe-Henderson-Madison area, she said. Religious denomination is not a factor in receiving the assistance of Catholic Social Services.

Language is the barrier for the refugees, she said. Gundorin helps refugees accomplish many necessary tasks, such as opening a bank account; making doctor appointments; preparing immigration papers for citizenship and permanent residence; finding a job; and buying a house.

Catholic Social Services also helps refugees pay for educational courses, such as for certified nursing assistants.

Another important role, said Gundorin, is helping refugees register with Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College for English as a Second Language classes. A-B Tech also offers computer classes for Russian speakers — using an interpreter, refugees and immigrants are taught to type, use software and the Internet.

Every refugee family initially receives DSS help, said Gundorin. Refugees attend a "Work First" program and attend school for 35 hours per week.

This year, the U.S. Congress is allowing entry of 50,000 refugees, 14,000 of whom are from the former Soviet Union, said Gundorin.

"You have to prove you are perse-

cuted," she said.

Gundorin is proud of the Russian and Ukrainian refugees whom she helps.

"They want to find jobs and are hard workers," she said.

When an employer hires a Russian or Ukrainian worker, by the next month the supervisor wants more Russian or Ukrainian workers, she said, because they do such a good job.

One couple Gundorin is working with is Anna and Ivan Gritskan, who with their five children came to the United States 10 months ago from Moldova, a small country on the southwestern border of Russia. Currently, Ivan works in cleaning and Anna is a homemaker.

While the Gritskans struggle with learning English — they already speak four languages — their hearts are joyful. Like Gundorin, they describe Americans as very friendly. They are also happy to see so many churches in the Asheville area.

"We are so appreciative and thankful for friendship," said Ivan Gritskan. And, "Americans should not forget about God — God bless and God will bless."

*Catholic Social Services Western Regional Office is one of the 36 ministries that reaps a fruitful harvest thanks to the Diocesan Support Appeal.*

Contact Correspondent Dianne M.A. Riggs by calling (828) 299-4411 or e-mail [mountainqurote@aol.com](mailto:mountainqurote@aol.com).

## MONTAGNARDS, from page 1

Resettlement Office, an affiliate of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. "All of the heads of families are employed, and nine of them have their driver's licenses."

Montagnards are dedicated and eager to learn about their new country, Ponce said. English as a Second Language (ESL) classes are completely filled, and several of the students come straight from their jobs to class.

"They appreciate the importance of learning the language," she said. "They are very dedicated to their education."

Volunteers, coordinated through the CSS Refugee Resettlement Office, provide vital services to the Montagnards, including scheduling medical appointments, translation services, transportation for those who do not have their driver's licenses and teaching home management skills. Home management includes adhering to a budget, balancing a checkbook, housekeeping and proper food storage.

"These are basic skills for Americans, but new to the refugees," said Ponce. Most Montagnard homes in Vietnam do not have refrigeration or plumbing.

Despite the determination of the Montagnards, their life in North Carolina has not been without hardship. Finding jobs in the ailing economy has proved difficult, said Ponce.

"Traditionally, they have worked doing assembly in factories, jobs which are almost non-existent now," she said. Instead, most are working in food and hotel service and woodworking.

### The long road to a new home

While many of the Montagnards who arrived in 1986 and 1992 are now naturalized American citizens, that day is a long way off for the recent arrivals. According to Ponce, immigrants claiming political asylum must live in the United States for one year before applying for permanent residency, also known as Green Card. After five years as a permanent resident, the refugees may apply for citizenship.

The refugees have a greater concern than citizenship: bringing their families, who are in danger of persecution from the communist government, to North Carolina from Vietnam. The CSS Refugee Resettlement Office is helping them to file the necessary paperwork, a task hampered by the fact that many of the men lack the required documentation.

"In Vietnam, you have to formally request birth and marriage certificates, so many people don't have them," Ponce said. "They have to use witnesses and family photos to prove who their families are."

CSS Refugee Resettlement Office still requires the following assistance for the Montagnards: cars in good condition, diapers, food coupons, financial donations and tutors to teach conversational English (orientation and training will be provided to the tutors).

For more information on ways to help the Montagnards, please contact Sonia Hayden, volunteer coordinator for the CSS Refugee Resettlement Office, at (704) 370-3283.

Contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans by calling (704) 370-3354 or e-mail [kaevans@charlottediocese.org](mailto:kaevans@charlottediocese.org).

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## Book Review

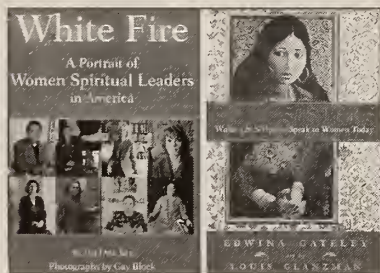
# Two books on women spiritual leaders

REVIEWED BY SISTER MONA  
CASTELAZO, CSJ  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

Women spiritual leaders, today and in the New Testament, are the subjects of these books.

"White Fire: A Portrait of Women Spiritual Leaders in America" by Rabbi Malka Drucker presents 31 women — rabbis, priests, ministers, and teachers from Jewish, Christian, Hindu, Native American, African-American, Muslim and Buddhist spiritual traditions. Rabbi Drucker quotes each extensively, showing her background, struggles and successes.

Many speak of the qualities women bring to ministry. United Methodist Bishop Leontine Kelly, the second woman bishop of any denomination, comments, "Women bring a more humane feeling to



"White Fire: A Portrait of Women Spiritual Leaders in America," by Rabbi Malka Drucker, with photographs by Gay Block. Skylight Paths (Woodstock, Vt., 2003). 276 pp., \$24.95.

"Soul Sisters: Women in Scripture Speak to Women Today," by Edwina Gateley, paintings by Louis Glanzman. Orbis Books (Maryknoll, N.Y., 2002). 132 pp., \$20.00.

structure and power." Jean Houston believes that "women emphasize process over product" and that they encourage coherency, development and growth. Joan Halifax, a Zen Buddhist priest, suggests, "Women have more room for failure. ... Little is expected of us."

Some of the women are more concerned about the inner life. Rev. Helen Cohen values solitude and reflection as being indispensable practices in our active world of constant competition and communication. Rev. Lauren Artress, who rediscovered the labyrinth, feels that the church is "ambivalent about the imagination, about creativity" and is afraid of artists and mystics because it cannot control them.

On the question of leadership, Marianne Williamson, author of "Return to Love," holds that opposition to women's leadership is "the last unchallenged oppression in America" at a time when feminine values are so needed. One minister remarks, "Isn't it ironic that people have trouble seeing women in robes, but not men? The robe is really a dress."

However, Franciscan Sister Jose Hobday, one of two Catholics in the book.

says that she has no interest in the priesthood, where she would be "dressed like a man, following rules written by men." Her mother told her that institutions move 100 years behind the people and she prefers "to stick with the people."

I personally did not enjoy the book because of so much emphasis on external works and biographical detail — and a bit of sensationalism. Rabbi Drucker seems to make too much of the fact that women are doing these things, rather than on a spirituality that emphasizes feminine values, accessible to both men and women.

In "Soul Sisters," Edwina Gateley's free-verse poetry accompanies 12 well-drawn, colorful paintings of New Testament women by the acclaimed illustrator and portrait painter Louis Glanzman. Each portrait is enhanced with beautifully designed borders, backgrounds, and detailed personal attire. Gateley was so taken by this collection of paintings that she pleaded with the publisher to be the poet for the book.

Gateley, a Catholic, founded the Volunteer Mission Movement in England and Genesis House, a Chicago program for women prostitutes. She is a frequent speaker and author of many books. "Soul Sisters" was in the top-10 best-selling Catholic paperback books in April, according to the Catholic Book Publishers Association.

Writing in the voice of the barren Elizabeth, who feels herself to be defective in her patriarchal society, Gateley says: "Women, worldwide, are still deemed essentially birthers of others, not birthers of themselves." Today, Gateley writes, Elizabeth's "soul sisters" cry aloud for the plight of women in Turkey, Northern Ireland, Afghanistan, Mexico, Thailand and Rwanda.

Anna the Prophetess is "a daughter of ancient tradition," Gateley writes, a tradition "that never questioned the role of women in prophecy, discernment or moral leadership." Gateley contrasts that tradition with today's society which is not connected with feminine energy and power.

In her reflection on Mary, the mother of Jesus, Gateley uses daring realism to draw an image of Mary as a "terrified pregnant teen ... traumatized by mystery," who fled to her cousin Elizabeth for solace, then fled from a violent government to protect her child.

Gateley describes Martha as one who "stands up straight and shining, proud and passionate, prepared to change the world from her kitchen." Martha speaks out for help with dinner and for the return of her brother's life, challenging Jesus "in the midst of a culture that preferred ... submissive, silent women."

Gateley makes each biblical woman come to life as a "soul sister" whose experiences parallel those of women today.

*Sister Castelazo is a member of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet who has taught English and literature for many years in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, most recently at Mount St. Mary's College.*

## Word to Life

Sunday Scripture  
Readings: May 18, 2003

May 18, Fifth Sunday of Easter

### Cycle B Readings:

- 1) Acts 9:26-31
- Psalm 22:26-27, 28, 30-32
- 2) 1 John 3:18-24
- 3) Gospel: John 15:1-8

By BOZENA CLOUTIER  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

As a young woman in England I was offered a very interesting and challenging job as a reporter and interpreter for an American radio station beaming programs to Eastern Europe. I was excited, intrigued, but also ambivalent. The job would enable me to use my native Polish, would help me learn German, acquire new skills, earn a good salary, but also mean my moving to live in Berlin among people I hated.

I am not proud of the fact that I hated the Germans, yet it was true. World War II and its losses were enormous. Hatred gnawed at me and fueled a spirit of bravado that led to self-righteousness.

Below those feelings lay another one that I was reluctant to acknowledge. It was fear. Fear of the Germans in general, fear of perhaps recognizing in an antique store a piece of furniture looted from our house in Poland, fear of standing next to a German and won-

dering if he had taken part in some of the atrocities that had been visited on my family.

Those who study the human psyche claim that there are only two basic emotions, love and fear, and that all others spring from them. In today's Scriptures we hear of the Jerusalem disciples being afraid to have the converted Saul join them. Unlike me, they were open in acknowledging their fear.

Saul's reputation as a zealous persecutor of Christians still followed him, and the disciples' fear was such that they would have nothing to do with him. It was the advocacy of one of their own, Barnabas, who helped convert the disciples to finally accept Saul. And it was the spirit of the risen Lord that moved them from "love in word and speech [to one] in deed and truth" as they whisked him away to safety when Greek Jews tried to kill him.

### Question:

How does fear motivate and direct your life? If there are pockets of hatred in your spiritual life, try to discern whether deep down they originate in fear.

### Scripture to Illustrate:

"Those who keep his commandments remain in him and he in them. And this is how we know that he remains in us: from the Spirit that he gave us." (1 John 3:24).

## Weekly Scripture

### Scripture for the week of May 18 - May 24

Sunday (Fifth Sunday of Easter), Acts 9:26-31, 1 John 3:18-24, John 15:1-8; Monday, Acts 14:5-18, John 14:21-26; Tuesday (St. Bernardine of Siena), Acts 14:19-28, John 14:27-31; Wednesday, Acts 15:1-6, John 15:1-8; Thursday, Acts 15:7-21, John 15:9-11; Friday, Acts 15:22-31, John 15:12-17; Saturday (St. Bede, St. Gregory VII, St. Mary Magdalene de Pazzi), Acts 16:1-10, John 15:18-21

### Scripture for the week of May 25 - May 31

Sunday (Sixth Sunday of Easter), Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48, 1 John 4:7-10, John 15:9-17; Monday (St. Philip Neri), Acts 16:11-15, John 15:26-16:4; Tuesday (St. Augustine of Canterbury), Acts 16:22-34, John 16:5-11; Wednesday, Acts 17:15, 22-18:1, John 16:12-15; Thursday (Ascension Thursday), Acts 1:1-11, Ephesians 1:17-23, Mark 16:15-20; Friday, Acts 18:9-18, John 16:20-23; Saturday (Visitation of Mary to Elizabeth), Romans 12:9-16, Luke 1:39-56

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# 'Reloaded' with effects, not story

*New 'Matrix' flick devolves into disappointing head-scratcher*

By DAVID DiCERTO  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

NEW YORK — Ragtag freedom-fighters, led by a messianic computer hacker, battle the machine overlords who have enslaved the rest of mankind in an illusory mind-prison in order to tap humans as an energy source in the special-effects lollapalooza "The Matrix Reloaded" (Warner Bros).

Inspired by the cyberpunk literature of Philip K. Dick, and drawing from a smorgasbord of traditions — including Greek philosophy, Gnostic mysticism and Eastern spirituality — writer-directors Larry and Andy Wachowski, who redefined the sci-fi genre in 1999 with "The Matrix," pose age-old questions concerning the nature of reality and free will set against a neo-noir, futuristic backdrop.

Unfortunately, the film's glamorized violence — earning it a well-deserved R rating — overshadows an otherwise intriguing premise, making the stylish cyber-thriller little more than a technically ambitious shoot-'em-up. And while the high-octane sequel leaves the eye-popping visuals of its predecessor in the dust — no mean feat — it breaks no new ground story-wise. It's mainly content to serve up a feast for the adrenal glands, without flexing much narrative muscle.

Like the original, this sequel, which takes up where "The Matrix" left off, has a lot of plot to spill — so here goes. In some distant Orwellian future, technology overtakes man as the dominant intelligence on Earth. A war ensues with homo sapiens coming out on the short end. Adding insult to injury, the victorious machines see in mankind a cheap and efficient energy source by harvesting their neural electricity. People are bred in pod-like cocoons oblivious to

their bondage because their computer masters keep them plugged in to a vast virtual-reality network known as the Matrix — pumping their brains with mental projections which dupe them into thinking they are living normal lives.

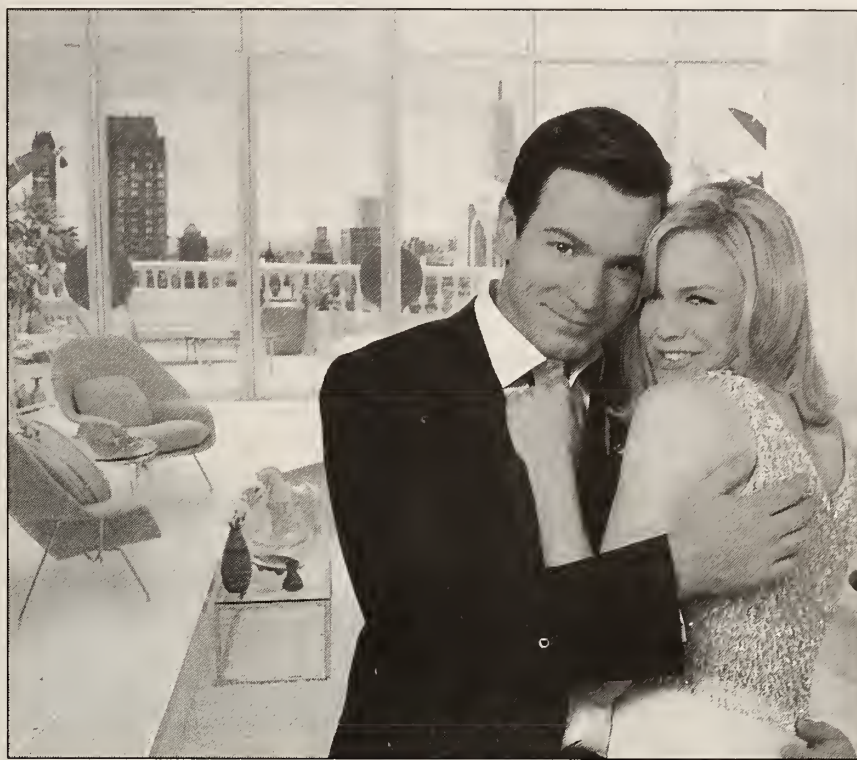
Some people have escaped and wage a guerrilla war against the malevolent artificial intelligence, striking from the sole remaining human outpost, Zion — a subterranean city near the Earth's core. Chief among the rebels is Thomas Anderson, alias "Neo" (Keanu Reeves), a nebbish computer whiz, revealed in the first film to be "the One," the prophesied savior who will free the human race — recruited for the cause by the mysterious sage Morpheus (Laurence Fishburne) and his leather-clad, hellcat sidekick Trinity (Carrie-Anne Moss), now Neo's lover.

Much of the sequel — as in the original — consists of escape and chase sequences, punctuated by extended, gravity-defying kung-fu brawls, with the overlapping realms of reality and virtual reality allowing for the suspension of the rules of physics — not to mention logic. This is nowhere more evident than in the film's visually bravura centerpiece: a mind-blowing free-for-all between Neo and his archnemesis, the unctuous Agent Smith (Hugo Weaving), an evil sentient program.

Neo, whose extraordinary ability to manipulate the Matrix has increased exponentially, must come to terms with his messianic destiny, as an army of drones bore down toward Zion bent on the extinction of mankind.

Complicating an already opaque narrative is a frustratingly dense story line that revolves around an enigmatic character called the Keymaker (Randall

## It's easy to be 'Down With Love'



CNS PHOTO FROM 20TH CENTURY FOX

Ewan McGregor and Renee Zellweger star in the romantic comedy "Down With Love," a retro-stylish romantic comedy chock full of whip-smart double entendres, but the film's questionable view of gender roles and suggestion that promiscuity is liberating is a bit off-putting. Implied sexual situations, racy double entendres and sexually suggestive humor, as well as a misguided attitude toward sexual intimacy. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-III — adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13 — parents are strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.

Duk Kim), who may hold the secret to humanity's ultimate victory.

The techno-heavy pretzel of a plot, coupled with a mountain of back story from the first film — which is never recapped — makes it nearly impossible for viewers who are new to the franchise to make heads or tails out of what is unfolding on the screen.

Further alienating audiences are the automaton heroes who seem more concerned with spouting pretentious pseudo-philosophical aphorisms and looking ultra-cool in their latex couture than injecting any genuine emotion into their leaden, flat-line performances, prompting the question: Who are more mechanical, the humans or the machines?

Author Orson Scott Card once observed that science fiction is one of the few realms of modern culture where serious theological and philosophical reflection can still be practiced. Yet, while the filmmakers have crammed their film with clever Christian motifs and mythological allusions, the metaphysical mulligan stew serves to obfuscate the overstuffed and at times incoherent plot rather than affect any real philosophical musing.

During one scene late in the film, Neo learns that a prototype version of the Matrix failed because the world it fabricated was too perfect, suggesting that suffering is an inherent component of the life equation — a theological insight consistent with the Christian understanding of man's fallen nature. However, this like

many of the film's existential ruminations, remains a philosophical carrot dangled tantalizingly but never given a vigorous workout in the narrative. Both films explore thought-provoking topics foreign to most action flicks, but the franchise's intellectual elevation is weighed down by its stylized mayhem.

Regrettably, the Wachowskis' bold, dark vision quickly devolves from one of recent Hollywood's more interesting premises into a disappointing head-scratcher, concerned only with showcasing its innovative effects and over-the-top, consequence-free carnage — made more repellent by the body counts equally tallied by both good and bad guys. Part three of the trilogy, "Matrix Revolutions," is due out later this year.

Due to much fantasy-style violence, a shadowy sexual encounter and some profanities, the USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-IV — adults, with reservations. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is R — restricted.

DiCerto is on the staff of the Office for Film & Broadcasting of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

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## The Pope Speaks

POPE JOHN PAUL II

### Pope says those who approach God will be welcomed with love

BY CINDY WOODEN  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — Facing a huge banner wishing him well for his 83rd birthday, Pope John Paul II told visitors at his weekly general audience that those who approach God with a "contrite heart" will be embraced with love.

As many as 25,000 people attended the audience in St. Peter's Square May 14, four days before the pope's birthday. The crowd included a 10,000-member-strong pilgrimage from Salerno, Italy, with some holding a banner reading, "Best Wishes, Holy Father."

The pope's audience talk focused on the Book of Daniel's Canticle of Azariah, a penitential prayer arising not from "discouragement or fear, but hope."

Facing martyrdom, Azariah is in a desperate situation, but so are the Israelites who have been exiled, the pope said.

"In that tragic present situation, hope seeks its roots in the past, that is, in the promise made to their fathers" that God's chosen people would be blessed with life and peace, he said.

"God is faithful and will not be untrue to his promises," the pope said.

Azariah presents himself to the Lord "offering the most precious and acceptable sacrifice: a contrite heart and a humble spirit," he said.

Aware of his sinfulness and committed to doing good, he is no longer afraid, confused and ashamed, but filled with trust in God, the pope said.

Following the Lord as Azariah did, "we, too, are invited to approach God with a contrite heart and a humble spirit, never losing faith," he said. Conversion "fills us with the consuming desire to see the Lord's face, a face radiant with love and compassion for his people."

As is his custom, the pope spent about half an hour after the audience greeting individuals and posing for photographs with various groups, including three Muslim women who are students at the Institute for the Study of Religions and Culture at Rome's Gregorian University.

### Seeking moral clarity on gambling - Part I

Gambling has been in the news of late with the revelation that William J. Bennett, author of "The Book of Virtues," has lost a sizeable sum at casinos. This revelation has led some to ask about the moral position on gambling of the Catholic Church, to which Mr. Bennett belongs.

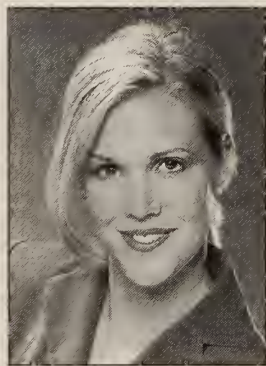
North Carolinians will soon revisit the topic of gambling, as many legislators and the governor seek a state lottery to raise revenues. Frequent news broadcasts of lottery winners and discussions on whether churches should accept donated gambling winnings also keep gambling a matter of moral debate.

Some people perceive gambling to be a personal decision made with one's own funds. Proponents of this position often see gambling providing more benefits than costs (e.g., jobs, revenues, decreased illegal gambling). The fact that some Catholic churches sponsor limited forms of gambling activities (e.g., Bingo, 50-50 raffles) may lead some to believe that the Catholic Church sees no wrong in gambling.

Others would have the Catholic Church condemn all gambling as a sin. They see gambling as an act that misuses resources and inflicts a host of ills on society. Many adherents of other Christian faiths condemn all gambling as a sin. The Catholic Church does not condemn gambling "per se" as wrong or sinful; however, the Catholic Church stills has much to say on the issue.

The Catholic Church condemns certain actions (e.g., abortion, euthanasia, genocide) and insists upon others (e.g., care for the sick, education of children, respect for one's parents). In the eyes of the Catholic Church, the rightness or wrongness of certain actions is non-negotiable, and no condition(s) can exist that either justify actions that are intrinsically wrong or justify not doing those actions that we ought to do.

On determining the morality of gambling, however, the Catholic Church requires one to evaluate particular circumstances and conditions. To properly ascertain the morality of gambling, one must consider: 1) the effects of gambling (on the gambler, on his or her family and on society); 2) the physical, financial and emotional well being of the gambler; and 3) the fairness of the wagers and the games wagered on.



## Our Turn

THERESE J. BORCHARD  
CNS COLUMNIST

### A young mom's angel

I've been praying to my guardian angels a lot lately. I know it's not the stuff of sophisticated theology. Many theologians dismiss the role of guardian angels as peripheral, petty, overrated and overused. But I've been panicked and desperate, and my lips automatically recite that familiar invocation:

"Angel of God, my guardian dear, to whom his love commits me here, ever this day be at my side, to light and guard, to rule and guide. Amen."

Yesterday I was christened into motherhood with my first trip to the emergency room following little David's play in the utility closet where he shot the bottle of tub and tile cleaner right into his eye — and for all I knew, into his mouth. Six hours later, at midnight, when the doctor emerged from the white curtain and told me he was going to be OK, I resumed breathing. The next morning I remembered to thank my angels.

They're good guys (and girls), our celestial helpers. They've become trusted allies of mine ever since my mother convinced my three sisters and me that God had assigned a special angel to each of us. As early as I can remember, I was taught to believe in guardian angels.

According to the Catechism of the Catholic Church, angels are among us here on earth, surrounding us with

## Guest Column



JOSEPH PURELLO  
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF JUSTICE  
AND PEACE, CATHOLIC SOCIAL  
SERVICES

In the 1997 "Revised Catechism of the Catholic Church," gambling is discussed under Article Seven, The Seventh Commandment, in a section on Respect for the Goods of Others. Paragraph 2413 reads: "Games of chance (card games, etc.) or wagers are not in themselves contrary to justice. They become morally unacceptable when they deprive someone of what is necessary to provide for his needs and those of others. The passion for gambling risks becoming an enslavement. Unfair wagers and cheating at games constitute grave matter, unless the damage inflicted is so slight that the one who suffers it cannot reasonably consider it significant."

While the path to attaining moral clarity on gambling is not a simple one, the guidance that is offered by the catechism can be supplemented and deepened by also considering relevant episcopal statements and pastoral letters. Numerous dioceses have addressed the effects of gambling — many state Catholic Conference offices have lobbied against the expansion of state-sponsored gambling. Other Catholic Church affiliated organizations have also contributed valuable analysis and insights on the issue of gambling.

We in North Carolina have the opportunity in coming months to make our voices heard regarding a state lottery; we are fortunate that resources (e.g., research studies, pastoral letters) already exist to reflect on the morality of gambling and more specifically, state-sponsored lotteries.

*Part II of this two-part essay will address the issue of lotteries.*

their "watchful care and intercession." Both Old and New Testaments refer to angels, and guardian angels, in particular. The Book of Psalms says:

"For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways.  
On their hands they will bear you up,  
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone"  
(Ps 91:11-12).

In the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus commands his disciples, "Take care that you do not despise one of these little ones; for, I tell you, in heaven their angels continually see the face of my Father in heaven" (Mt 8:10-11). And in the Gospel of Luke, he tells the story of the poor man, Lazarus, who was "carried away by the angels to be with Abraham" (Lk 16:22).

Do I really believe that some feathery friend is leaning over my shoulder, watching my every move, like the sexy, winged John Travolta in the 1996 hit "Michael"? Or that some heavenly helper is assigned to me like Nicolas Cage was to Meg Ryan in the blockbuster "City of Angels"? Not really. But I do believe God commands angels to watch over his children on earth, responding to their 911 calls with a team of beatific doctors and paramedics.

I have to. I'm a young mom, and every young mom knows there will be a time when she has her back turned and her son will ride his bike into a busy street, or trip over the curb and split his chin open, or tease the dog past his threshold, and she'll wait and wait and wait inside that dreadful emergency room for some person with a chart and a stethoscope to say he will or will not survive.

Guardian angels aren't just Hollywood material and cute little pins sold on Hallmark's spin rack.

They're real.

And so I summon them every time I feel the least bit of turbulence on a plane, or my Styrofoam coffee cup moves more than a 16th of an inch across my tray table, or my son's ear infection fails to respond to the third strand of antibiotics, or I hear him screaming inside the utility closet.





## Light One Candle

MSGR. JIM LISANTE  
GUEST COLUMNIST

### Someone's mother

Many of the groups that invite me to speak enjoy the chance, after a formal presentation, to ask questions. In some ways, the give and take of questions and my attempt to answer them are the highlight of these events because that's when I get a real sense of who and what an audience is.

Some of my speeches focus on the influence of popular media, a topic that always evokes a strong response. People have very definite opinions about the folks in print and television media and argue strongly for and against their influence.

In some talks, I'm fairly critical of the biased ways in which news is sometimes presented. My perspective, of course, is largely centered on how religious faith and moral issues are handled. And, frankly, poor presentations of the church and her teaching come from both the left and the right, the so-called conservative and liberal news organizations. Both, at times, can be simplistic or inaccurate. Yet, I admit that it's not difficult to lump the messenger and their message into one and become personal in criticisms. I know that sometimes I've done that.

Recently, in a gathering of several hundred women, I was asked about the media and its fairness. I explained my reservations on news presentations

about religion. Following my talk, I had the chance to speak one-on-one to those who wanted to ask more specific questions. One woman near the end of the line wanted to know what I thought of one of the leading news commentators, Bill O'Reilly. He is the host on Fox News' most popular show and his books have quickly become bestsellers. I've been on his show a number of times and I don't always care for the way in which he talks about the pope, Catholic teachings or the institution of the church. I've often left his program feeling that he wasn't really looking for answers, but had an agenda to promote, with nuances often lost in broad strokes and quick condemnations. These, at least, were my feelings as the woman questioned me that night.

I don't know why but, for some reason, I focused on the positive aspects of Bill O'Reilly rather than the negative. I told the woman that he was "bright, direct and probably the best of the news commentary bunch." I admired his debating skills and knew him to be, off camera, a man who tried to live and practice his faith. And while we don't always agree on issues, I found O'Reilly to be well informed and "a good soul, all in all." The woman smiled broadly and thanked me for my comments. "You see, Father, Bill O'Reilly is my son and I'm very proud of him." God, was I glad that on that night I celebrated the best rather than reprov-ing the worst.

That experience was a valuable lesson. Sometimes we think that if we disagree with someone, it has to be personal. We show antipathy to people, when what we dislike are their ideas. That's a mistake to avoid. In a world of so many divisions, we have the power to heal a few breaches. We can do that by disagreeing with the person who doesn't see the world on our terms with respect. We can remember that everyone, even those with whom we most strongly take issue, are children of the same God — and someone's son or daughter.

I wouldn't want anyone to vilify me in front of my Mom — and I don't want to do that to anybody else!

### What to believe about purgatory

*Q. Are we as Catholics still to believe in the doctrine of purgatory, or is it something we can choose to believe or not? The more I read about it, the more confused I get. (North Carolina)*

A. I'm not surprised you are confused. While the church itself always has been wary of specifics about purgatory, the subject has been confused by an assortment of folk traditions, and private visions and revelations, each professing to provide details about who is there, how long, what it's like and so on.

First, it is a dogma of Catholic faith that some condition exists after death in which souls with remaining pain or stain of sin are cleansed for eternal life and that we the living can help them by our prayers. This doctrine has been taught as a matter of faith by several church councils through the centuries, including the Council of Trent in the 16th century.

My experience is that most Catholics mistakenly believe that the doctrine of purgatory is much more complicated. Unfortunately, as I think Will Rogers once said, "The problem ain't what we don't know, it's what we do know that ain't so."

Christian folklore, and especially European Christian art of the Middle Ages and on into the Renaissance, tended to portray purgatory as a kind of minihell, with fire and gory punishments lasting for centuries. Such specifics, as I said, are not and have never been part of authentic Catholic teaching.

A few years ago Pope John Paul II called purgatory "the process of purification for those who die in the love of God but are not completely imbued with that love." Purgatory, he said "is not a place" but a "condition," freeing those who have died in God's grace from their imperfections (papal audience Aug. 4, 1999).

The Catechism of the Catholic Church picks up the same thought. Purgatory is a process of purification preparatory to entering heaven (Nos. 1030-1031 and 1472).

Similarly, because purgatory is not a place but a process purifying the soul, we don't know whether "time" is part of that process at all. Since the world after death

## Question Corner

FATHER JOHN DIETZEN  
CNS COLUMNIST



would not seem to have hours or days or years in our sense of those words, it is not likely that purgatory could involve time as we know it.

Is it possible that, in the impact of our first face-to-face encounter with God at death, we will be so painfully awestruck by our sinfulness and weakness before the holiness of God, so electrified by the unencumbered awareness of his limitless love for us, that an entire "purgation" might occur in an instant?

We just don't know. Such assumptions, however, contradict no Catholic doctrine, because the church has never attempted to answer these types of questions and they are not part of Catholic faith.

Two truths are clear, therefore, in Catholic teaching about purgatory. First, some condition exists "after death" by which temporal punishment remaining for sins is satisfied.

Second, based on an instinct of faith that goes back to the earliest Christians, we believe we can aid those who are "in purgatory" by our prayers and good works. God, in his eternal presence that knows no past or future, can hear our prayers for those who have gone before us whenever and however they are said.

This solidarity with those who have died is one aspect of our belief in the communion of saints, which unites all who are joined in Christ, whether still on earth or in the next world.

## Parish Diary

FATHER PETER J. DALY  
CNS COLUMNIST



### Sisters

The median age in the room was about 70. But you could never tell it from their energy and their laughter.

I was standing in front of a room full of nuns — about 80 of them. They had invited me to celebrate Mass in honor of four jubilarians celebrating the 50th anniversary of their profession as Sisters of the Holy Cross.

Sister Judy McKenna, who had been at our parish for five years, invited me. Along with the three other jubilarians; Sisters Geraldine Liguore, Elizabeth Rossetti and Camilla Fitzgerald, they collectively had given more than 200 years of service to the church and society.

In many ways this sunny chapel filled with elderly nuns was an intimidating group. These sisters are achievers. Most have advanced degrees. They have worked with children and adults, rich and poor, sick and well. Even in retirement they are busy. Nearly all of them still go out each day to volunteer, visiting the sick, teaching the young and helping the dying.

Standing before this room of older women I had a vision. I described it to them.

I saw the thousands of children they had taught — the minds they had opened to the wonders of learning and the consolation of faith.

I saw the thousands of poor people they had helped both materially and spiritually.

I saw the thousands of souls, rank upon rank of them, whom they had brought to God. I saw many more reaffirmed in their faith and given courage to persevere by the witness of these good women. I saw legions of lives saved by their words and deeds.

How blessed we are in the Catholic Church to have been given the gift of these lives. How little we thank them for it.

These women had sought to do something noble and daring. They had sought not just to serve the world. After all, other social workers, teachers and healers do that. These women also had sought to create real Christ-centered community — the kind of community described in the Acts of the Apostles when it says the early church was of one mind and one heart, united in love and witness to the risen Jesus.

Despite all the joy and enthusiasm that jubilee day, there was an edge of sadness. There is no escaping the sense that this noble way of life is coming to an end, at least in North America and Europe. There were no sisters in the room under 50. There is no one in formation. How sad, I thought, that future generations might not know their selfless witness.

Of course, we shouldn't despair. Doubtless the Holy Spirit will be midwife to some new kind of religious life. Something will be born to serve the church and draw people together in a community of love for future ages.

Nevertheless, I think we should mourn the decline of these great communities. These women have done something of eternal importance with their lives. They heard the call of God and placed their gifts at the service of the church and each other. They did it with joy.

Despite their gray heads, the sisters in the chapel were still full of youthful enthusiasm. Because of that, they were, in the vision in my mind, forever young.



## A look at SARS

## Quarantined hospital staff in Taiwan scared over SARS, says nurse

TAIPEI, Taiwan (CNS) — A Catholic nurse quarantined with SARS patients in Taipei said co-workers were anxious and scared and that some have fallen ill with the disease. Chen Li-hua, a nursing supervisor at Taipei Municipal Ho Ping Hospital, said in a telephone interview from the hospital that there are 60-70 SARS patients quarantined there. She spoke to UCA News, an Asian church news agency based in Thailand. Ho Ping was one of several

hospitals ordered sealed for two weeks beginning April 24 by Taiwan's Department of Health and the Taipei city government in order to contain SARS, severe acute respiratory syndrome. Chen, who survived breast cancer last year, is working 16-hour days with her colleagues. Many of her co-workers have become ill and the medical staff are very scared and anxious, she said. She said many patients have become anxious as they have realized the seriousness of the disease.

## EXECUTIVE EDITOR THE GEORGIA BULLETIN

The Georgia Bulletin, the official weekly newspaper of the Archdiocese of Atlanta, seeks an executive editor to lead the staff of the 80,000-circulation newspaper in a faith-filled, team environment. Position includes budget planning, preparation and management. Bachelor's degree in journalism or related field, 5 years' prior newspaper experience, knowledge and love of the Catholic faith, willingness to serve, familiarity with InDesign, Photoshop, Corel in MAC environment, copy editing experience required. Strong interpersonal and communications skills, including ability to interact with Church leaders and members at all levels, and solid administrative skills needed.

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## DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRY

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## CAMPUS MINISTRY, from page 1

pose in it," said Colleen McDermott, director of campus ministry for the Diocese of Charlotte. "Catholic campus ministry makes them feel at home, welcomed."

According to McDermott, many of the students who are confirmed chose not to do so in middle school. Campus ministry gives them the opportunity to return to the faith of their childhood. Other students have had little or no religious upbringing and are now able to explore something that is completely new to them.

"College students are in a phase of life where they are looking for truth," said Gloria Schweitzer, campus minister for Western Carolina University (WCU). "Campus ministry provides a non-threatening atmosphere, coupled with a time for exploration."

Some students in the campus ministry were baptized, but their religious education ended there.

"For them, it's a rejoining," said McDermott. "But they are on the same kind of journey as the confirmation candidates."

Hunter Fink, a recent graduate of WCU, was baptized in the Catholic Church as an infant but never received holy Communion. Her older sister, Ryan, was initiated into the church through the campus ministry program at WCU a few years ago. Hunter followed Ryan's example, and was received into the church at the Easter Vigil in April 2003.

"Campus ministry is inviting and warm," Fink said. "Gloria is like a mother, giving us a home away from home."

Campus ministry provides a non-threatening atmosphere for students to explore new faiths, Schweitzer said.

Even at Belmont Abbey College, the only Catholic college in the Carolinas, students are joining the Catholic

Church.

"We had one student confirmed and one student received into full communion this year," said Sue Hinderlinder, director of campus ministry for Belmont Abbey. "The young man who was received into the church is a rising senior who has been at the Abbey and just felt drawn to the faith tradition. He has been searching for a number of years and said he felt he was home."

### The future of ministry

According to McDermott, campus ministry programs must become more involved in the advocacy for increased funding. There are increasingly greater costs, with less available aid money, she said.

As for the future of campus ministry, McDermott hopes that state and national legislatures work on ways to enable Hispanics to attend state institutions. It is also important to continue reaching out to community colleges to establish a ministerial presence on their campuses, she said.

Another on-going concern for campus ministry programs is the importance of helping new Catholics transition from college to parish life. Many students don't know how to go about finding a church or even how to register in a church, McDermott said. Campus ministry programs are seeking ways to help students continue to grow in their faith after graduation.

Contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans by calling (704) 370-3354 or e-mail [kaevans@charlottediocese.org](mailto:kaevans@charlottediocese.org).

Campus Ministry is one of 36 ministries that will reap a fruitful harvest through the Diocesan Support Appeal.



## St. Gabriel honors grandparents



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

Annie Corah, a kindergartener at St. Gabriel School in Charlotte, shows her mother and grandmother around her classroom May 1. A few hundred grandparents and parents gathered at the school to celebrate Grandparents Day. Following Mass, students and their families gathered at the Grotto, where Father Christopher M. Gober, parochial vicar of St. Gabriel Church, blessed the Grandparents Garden, an area on the school grounds dedicated to the grandparents of St. Gabriel students. After a short reception, students were able to give their families a tour of the school.

## Living Waters Catholic Reflection Center

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# Sisters honored for 60 years of service

By SUSAN DeGUZMAN  
CORRESPONDENT

WINSTON-SALEM — St. Leo the Great Church recently recognized the Sisters of Saint Joseph's 60 years of service to the parish and Triad community with a parish celebration in April.

Over the years, the sisters have contributed countless teaching hours at St. Leo School in Winston-Salem and Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School in Kernersville, formerly in Winston-Salem. The women religious also served in other ministries of the parish, including faith formation, hospital chaplainry, eucharistic ministry, adult education, Hispanic ministry and Sunday collection.

The sisters' good works have touched the lives of many Catholics in this area.

"The first sisters must have made a definite impact and impression. So many people have asked me about previous sisters and have spoken about them," said Sister Emma Yondura, first-grade teacher at St. Leo School since 1992. "From this I know these sisters have touched the lives of the people that they met and taught."

The Order of the Sisters of St. Joseph, whose motherhouse is located in Chestnut Hill in Philadelphia, Pa., were called to establish a presence in the Winston-Salem area in 1943 under the pastorate of Msgr. Michael J. Begley, who later became the first bishop of the Diocese of Charlotte. The area was considered missionary territory at the time, and the sisters jumped in and started teaching.

"From the convent, they taught painting, music, French and secretarial studies," explained Sister Dennis Eileen, who is now the "senior sister" in the convent.

In 1949, the order was able to utilize property on Country Club Road to teach and thus established the Villa Maria Academy. A new building was soon constructed adjacent to the church; this became the permanent site of Saint Leo School in 1953.

The sisters are all highly educated, most with master's degrees and many with multiple degrees.

"We are educated in many ways so that we can move from one need to the next," said Sister Emma. "We are no longer just a teaching community. We answer to the call of a variety of ministries. We keep going to school because there is always more to learn."

"While we were mostly teachers in the beginning, there are now more nurses and missionaries. Our sisters do all sorts of



PHOTO BY SUSAN DeGUZMAN

**Sisters of St. Joseph Sister Anne Thomas Taylor, Sister Geri Rogers and St. Leo the Great parishioner Eunice Bircher celebrate the Sisters of St. Joseph's 60 years of service to the parish and Triad community.**

apostolic works," said Sister Dennis. "I'm so proud to be a Sister of Saint Joseph, because we are so involved and are ready for any and all good works."

In 1975, Sister Dennis came to the Triad area to teach math at Bishop McGuinness High School. Four years later, she was asked to assist as a eucharistic minister at Baptist Hospital. She spent two years dividing her time between the jobs and in 1985 — her 50th anniversary as a woman religious and with a total of 46 years of teaching experience — she devoted herself to full-time work as a chaplain.

Sister Dennis is highly recognizable at the hospital, wearing her religious habit on a daily basis.

"I feel I am most blessed in that I've been able to stay here and do this for so many years and to help people in their journey," she said.

Sister Emma first came to the diocese in 1973 to work at St. Ann School in Charlotte. In addition to her years at St. Leo and St. Ann schools, she has taught in Pennsylvania and Virginia. She has always been a first-grade teacher and loves this position.

She has also helped with faith formation and the Sunday collection, and is involved with a variety of parish activities.

Her first-grade class performs annually for the St. Leo Golden Club, which she believes is an important opportunity to "span the age gap" and connect the school and parish.

Sisters of St. Joseph from across the region attended the celebration at St. Leo the Great Church, including Sister Ann Thomas, dean of students at Bishop McGuinness; Sister John Christopher, a teacher at Bishop McGuinness; Sister Geri Rogers, assistant principal at Our Lady of Mercy School in Winston-Salem; and Sister Catherine Michael Fee, principal of St. Thomas Moore School in Chapel Hill and former teacher at St. Leo School.

Many of the Sisters of St. Joseph grew up in the Pennsylvania area and were drawn to the order as young women. Sister Emma was attracted to "a special charism of gentleness and cordiality" in the Sisters of St. Joseph, she said.

Sister Dennis described the philosophy of the order by reciting one of their daily morning prayers: "Father, we are called as Sisters of St. Joseph to surrender, to stand open and powerless before you, completely dependent upon Jesus, whose spirit liberates us to a radical sense of mission through the rhythm of contemplation and courageous action, and to be a healing presence in any and all situations. And to this we say, Amen."

## Nun's simple idea to give teddy bears to elderly has powerful effect

By KEVIN KELLY  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (CNS) — Sometimes, the simplest, most ridiculous ideas work best.

Last fall, Ursuline Sister Rita Klarer decided elderly residents of the nursing homes she visited needed teddy bears.

Sister Rita, 77, pastoral care minister at St. Patrick Parish in Kansas City, took her idea to the parish's Women and Men of a Certain Age Club, known as WAMOCA. At the time she thought it would be a nice, little Christmas project.

"The word got out, and soon people started bringing in teddy bears in droves," Sister Rita said. "They came in all sizes and colors."

She not only supplied bears to every nursing home she visited, but also to clients of the parish's food pantry, parish support group members and any person who looked like they needed something to hug.

One woman's reaction will stay with Sister Rita the rest of her life.

"She was in her 80s," the nun said. "Her eyes lit up like I never saw them before. She held her teddy bear and tears came into her eyes. She said, 'I never had a teddy bear before.' The next time I came in to give her Communion, she was asleep with the teddy bear in her arms."

Sister Rita said the thought behind the teddy bear counts most.

"They need something to cuddle," she said. "I can't explain it, but it is miraculous."

She said her teddy bear ministry is ridiculously simple, and she encouraged parishes with pastoral-care teams to try it.

"It doesn't cost a lot and it's such a simple thing," Sister Rita said. "It's like that movie, 'Field of Dreams.' If anyone wants to get into this ministry, all they have to do is ask for teddy bears and they will come."

Sister Rita, however, warned that anyone who gets involved in the ministry had better be prepared to receive more than they give.

"To see someone's eyes light up that haven't lit up for a long, long time, the giver gets a lot more than the receiver," she said. "It's pure joy."

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Know that the LORD is God; he made us, his we are; his people, the flock he tends. The LORD is good: his kindness endures forever, and his faithfulness, to all generations.

Psalm 100: 3,5

# The Catholic

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MAY 23, 2003

SERVING CATHOLICS IN WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA IN THE DIOCESE OF CHARLOTTE

VOLUME 12 No 34

## Walking with Christ

*Catechists reflect Jesus for those they teach*

By JOANITA M. NELLENBACH  
CORRESPONDENT

HENDERSONVILLE — Catechists — more than information dispensers, they help others to journey with Christ.

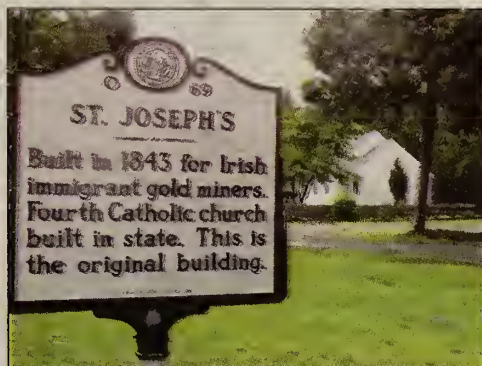
"The main thing that we as catechists do in our parish is try to extend the love and faith of the church that we have, the oneness of the churches everywhere," said Nancy Norcross, a catechetical leader who oversees preschool through sixth-graders at St. Joseph Church in Bryson City.

"Our example is a lot of how we teach our children to walk with Christ: being at Mass, interacting with them, recognizing them when we see them around town."

George Pastore is an altar server and fourth- and fifth-grade catechist at St. Margaret Church in Maggie Valley.

See CATECHISTS, page 9

## Catholicism rooted in Mount Holly church



PHOTOS BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

*St. Joseph is one of original N.C. Catholic churches*

By KEVIN E. MURRAY  
ACTING EDITOR

MOUNT HOLLY — The small, white clapboard church stands among the fading gravestones like a living piece of history, welcoming visitors inside to experience the past.

"When you walk through

Top: Gravestones flank St. Joseph Church, built by Irish immigrant gold miners in 1843. Above left: The church was designated as a National Historical Site in 1979. Above right: Father John Hoover, prior of New Creation Monastery, celebrates his 27th ordination anniversary in the church May 18.

the front doors, it's 1843 again," said Carl Heil.

Since 1993, Heil has been the volunteer caretaker of the Church of St. Joseph and Mary, known as St. Joseph Church since the Civil War. One of the oldest standing Catholic churches in North

Carolina, St. Joseph Church was built by Irish immigrant gold miners in the 1800s.

"It's how we got started," said Father John Hoover, prior of New Creation Monastery in Charlotte. "It's a wonderful

See ST. JOSEPH, page 8

## Soon to serve the diocese Bishop Curlin to ordain three new priests

By KEVIN E. MURRAY  
ACTING EDITOR

CHARLOTTE — Next month, the Diocese of Charlotte will welcome three new priests into the fold.

Bishop William G. Curlin, bishop emeritus, will celebrate the ordination Mass of transitional deacons Matthew Buettner, Julio Dominguez and Enrique Gonzalez-Gaytan at St. John Neumann Church in Charlotte June 7.

"They will bring their unique gifts to the people of the church in western North Carolina," said Msgr. Mauricio W. West, diocesan administrator. "We welcome them and pray for them in their ministry as priests."

The three transitional deacons, who hail from diverse backgrounds, will find common ground serving the people of western North Carolina as they join the 70 diocesan priests currently serving in the Diocese of Charlotte.

Twenty-seven-year-old Rev. Mr. Buettner, originally from Peoria, Ill., believes working in western North Carolina, a state with approximately 140,000 registered Catholics, will provide "opportunities to really get to know my faith, have a stronger relationship with the Lord and be more grounded in the Catholic Church and its traditions."

Dominguez and Gonzalez-Gaytan, both from Mexico, have been studying for the priesthood in the United States for about two years. Most of their family members still live in Mexico, but they have relatives and

See ORDINATION, page 14

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### Vatican official says people want fidelity in Mass, not novelty

WASHINGTON (CNS) —

People want fidelity at Mass, not novelty, Cardinal Francis Arinze, the Vatican's top liturgy official, said at an international liturgy forum in Washington May 16. "What most of the people who come to Mass are asking for is simply that the Mass is there, according to the approved books. The primary thing they are asking for is not something new," he said. Cardinal Arinze, prefect of the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Sacraments, stressed that liturgical renewal in the church calls for "ongoing formation for all of us." He also underlined "the importance of good sacred music" for liturgy, adding, "Nobody can doubt that, because it helps us to worship God, and also it helps us to maintain a sense of the sacred." The Nigerian-born cardinal spoke briefly at the end of a three-hour forum on liturgical renewal in the United States. Sponsored by the Secretariat for Liturgy of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, it marked the 40th anniversary of the Second Vatican Council's 1963 Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy.

### Bishops' spokesman calls media coverage on abuse 'severely distorted'

BROOKLYN, N.Y. (CNS) — Media coverage of the sex abuse story produced "a severely distorted view of the bishops and their efforts," according to the communications director for the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. Speaking in Brooklyn May 16, Msgr. Francis J. Maniscalco said the reports of clergy abuse deserved coverage, and sunlight was "the best detergent for this kind of stain." But many reporters treated the story as an "ecclesiastical Enron," and ignored the possibility that the situation of the bishops reflected "a conflict of duty" rather than "a dereliction of duty," he said. Msgr. Maniscalco said the Boston Globe, which won a Pulitzer Prize for "courageous comprehensive coverage of sexual abuse by priests," could

## Tourists visit inflatable church



CNS PHOTO FROM REUTERS

Visitors exit an inflatable church at the National Christian Resources Exhibition in Surrey, England, May 13. The church contains an inflatable organ, a polyvinyl pulpit, an air-filled altar and fake stained-glass windows.

have begun in January of last year by reporting that, while documents raised serious questions about the bishops' handling of sex abuse cases, "the number of complaints involving abuse in recent years has been dropping dramatically" as the bishops' policies for dealing with them "seem to be taking hold."

### Pope says Catholics have obligation to support missionary work

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Despite tough economic times, Catholics have an obligation to help their poorer brothers and sisters and to support Catholic missionary activity, Pope John Paul II said. A global economic crunch has had the double effect of increasing the needs of the church in many countries, but also

causing "a worrying decrease" in financial donations to the Pontifical Missionary Works, the pope said. Pope John Paul II met May 16 at the Vatican with national directors of the missionary organization, which includes the Holy Childhood Association, the Pontifical Missionary Union, the Society for the Propagation of the Faith and the Society of St. Peter the Apostle. "I urge you not to be discouraged by the difficulties," he told the directors. "Remind everyone that cooperation, which is indispensable for the evangelization of the world, is a right and obligation of all the baptized."

### Vatican officials convinced they were right to oppose Iraqi conflict

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Al-

though the war in Iraq was shorter than expected and resulted in the fall of President Saddam Hussein, Vatican officials remain convinced that they were right to oppose the conflict and say it has weakened, not improved, global security. In interviews, editorial commentaries and speeches in early May, officials from Pope John Paul II on down contended that "unilateral" action is not the way to stop terrorism and that the United Nations must be strengthened in the wake of the U.S.-led invasion of Iraq. The officials said the easy military victory and the subsequent failure to find weapons of mass destruction in Iraq — at least so far — demonstrate that there was no real reason to go to war. And while the fall of a tyrant opens the prospects of new freedom in Iraq, the war also unleashed a power struggle among opposing factions with Muslim fundamentalists the likely winners, the officials said.

### Father Hehir urges debate on Bush's first-strike policy

AKRON, Ohio (CNS) — It's time for Americans to begin debating President Bush's first-strike policy against countries perceived to be a threat, the president of Catholic Charities USA said in Akron. Father J. Bryan Hehir said May 9 that such a debate would allow a full discussion of the pros and cons of attacking first in light of the war in Iraq and the extended role in which the U.S. military is now finding itself. The debate would help policymakers and elected leaders determine if future pre-emptive strikes, as defined by the president, are acceptable to the American public and the international community, he told the First Friday Club of Greater Akron. The priest agreed that, under the U.N. charter, countries have the right to respond unilaterally or in cooperation with other nations when attacked. In responding to terrorist threats, Father Hehir said pre-emption usually can be justified. But in the case of the United States and Iraq and the "rogue states" identified by Bush, Father Hehir questioned if pre-emption is appropriate.

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## Diocesan planner

### Upcoming Parish Events May

**26 GREENSBORO** — St. Paul the Apostle Church is holding a Memorial Day book/CD/video sale and silent auction today. The sale and auction will be 10 a.m.-2 p.m. and again 5:30-7:30 p.m. An Italian/Mexican dinner will be served 6-7:30 p.m. Tickets for the dinner will be available after Masses held before the event. Kids activities also will take place during the day. For more information, call Ken Kaczmarek at (336) 294-2558 or Tom Russell at (336) 545-7536.

**26 NEWTON** — The Little Flowers Catholic Girls' Group is for all Catholic girls ages five and up. The group will be meeting at St. Joseph Church, 720 West 13th St., at 4 p.m. in the Holy Family Hall. For more details, call Debbie

Vickers at (828) 495-2039.

**28 SYLVA** — St. Mary Church will be offering a four-part series on praying the "Prayer of the Church," as it is prayed by priests and religious as well as a growing number of lay people around the world. The monthly sessions are scheduled for Wednesday evenings following the 5:30 p.m. Mass beginning May 28, 6-7 p.m. Session I will be "Introduction to the Liturgy of the Hours" with a booklet that lets you start praying the morning office right away. As materials must be prepared, please call the office (828) 586-9496 to pre-register.

**28 GUILFORD COUNTY** — The Ancient Order of Hibernians Guilford County Division, the oldest and largest order of Irish Catholic men, is looking for more Irish Catholic men to join them for meetings, educational seminars and social events. Contact Michael Slane at (336) 665-9264 for time and location.

**30 GREENSBORO** — "Go and Tell," the annual Catholic Renewal Conference, featuring Rev. Tom Forrest,

CSSR, international director of Evangelization 2000, will be held May 30-June 1, at Greensboro College, 815 West Market Street. Speakers also include Rev. Christopher Davis of Reidsville and Mrs. Hannah Hammer of Greensboro. On-campus housing, meals and childcare are provided. For registration information, contact Melodie Manna at (336) 760-1110.

**31 SALISBURY** — School of Leaders will meet at Sacred Heart Church today 9-11:30 a.m., following the 8 a.m. Mass. There will also be a Secretariat meeting 1-2:30 p.m. For more information, call Dan Hines at (704) 544-6665 or visit [www.charlottediocese.org](http://www.charlottediocese.org). To receive Cursillo information via e-mail contact [bmayer@alltell.net](mailto:bmayer@alltell.net).

### June

**1 CHARLOTTE** — The St. Maximilian Kolbe Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order will be gathering today at 2 p.m. at Our Lady of Consolation Church, 2301 Statesville



# Catholic network links volunteers with projects that need them

ARLINGTON, Va. (CNS) —

Animal husbandry, community organization, elderly outreach, grant writing, migrant worker ministry, occupational therapy, translating and tutoring are just a few of the volunteer opportunities compiled in a catalog published annually by the Catholic Network of Volunteer Service based in Washington. In its 40th year, the network organization is a clearing-house of information for its 235 member organizations and volunteers looking to spend as a little as a week to more than a year volunteering for groups in the United States and abroad. The network's catalog and Web site at [www.cnvs.org](http://www.cnvs.org) are valuable resources for anyone looking "to give something back." The site asks prospective volunteers a series of 20 questions, and with the searchable database, people can narrow down their placement options on their own. The catalog, called "Resource," has an alphabetical listing of the member organizations, and an index that lists different volunteer fields, such as arts and music, or evangelization, or even physician-related duties.

## New book tracks dramatic demographic changes in church since 1900

WASHINGTON (CNS) — "Global Catholicism," a new book by researchers at the Washington-based Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate, tracks the dramatic shifts of the past century that turned Roman Catholicism from an overwhelmingly European institution a century ago to the world church it is today. Subtitled "Portrait of a World Church," the 287-page book says that nearly two-thirds of the world's 267 million Catholics in 1900 lived in Europe, but by 2000 European Catholics accounted for little more than one-fourth of the billion-plus Catholics around the world. While Europe's Catholic population increased by 55 percent over the century, growth elsewhere ranged from a sevenfold increase in the Americas to

Ave. Those interested in learning more about the SFO and the Franciscan way of life are invited to attend. For more information, call Skyler Harvey, SFO, at (704) 545-9133.

**1 SALISBURY** — Sacred Heart Church, 128 N. Fulton St., will be celebrating a charismatic and healing Mass today at 4 p.m. Prayer and worship with prayer teams will be available at 3 p.m., and a potluck dinner will follow the Mass. Father John Putnam, pastor, will be the celebrant. For further information, call Bill Owens at (704) 639-9837.

**2 CHARLOTTE** — The bereavement support group will meet tonight 6-7:30 p.m. and every first Monday in the family room at St. Gabriel Church, 3016 Providence Rd. This support group is for anyone who has experienced the loss of a loved one. For details, call Ruth Posey, CSS counselor, at (704) 370-3238.

**2 CHARLOTTE** — Christians in Career Transition is a ministry of St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy., devoted to helping people in career crises. The meetings will take place on the first and third Mondays of every month 7-9 p.m. in the conference room. For more information, call Rev. Mr. Jim Hamrlik at (704) 576-0456.

**2 CHARLOTTE** — The cancer support group for survivors, family and friends will meet today and every first Tuesday at 7 p.m. at St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy. For more information, call Marilyn Borrelli at (704) 542-2283.

**2 CLEMMONS** — Holy Family Church, 4820 Kinnamon Rd., will be celebrating a charismatic Mass tonight at 7:30 p.m. The sacrament of reconciliation will be given at 7 p.m., and the laying on of hands will take place after Mass. The next Mass will be celebrated on Oct. 7. For more information, call the church office at (336) 778-0600 or Jim Passero at (336) 998-7503.

**4 ALBEMARLE** — The Forever Young Club of Our Lady of the Annunciation Church, 416 N. 2nd St., will be having a meeting and a covered dish

# Children among thousands fleeing violence in Congo



CNS PHOTO FROM REUTERS

A Congolese girl holds her brother at a church refugee compound in Ntoroko, Uganda, May 18. Fighting in eastern Congo between armed rival tribal militias has brought renewed turmoil to a region already devastated by war. Some 100,000 people have fled to neighboring Uganda out of fear of kidnappings, killings and cannibalism and were in desperate need of food, water and shelter. In early May three Catholic priests were among those killed in a rampage in northeastern Congo.

almost 70-fold in Africa. In 2000 there were 519 million Catholics in the Americas, 280 million in Europe, 130 million in Africa, 107 million in Asia and 8 million in Oceania, the church's regional designation for Australia and the Pacific islands. "Global Catholi-

cism" was edited by Brian T. Froehle, CARA's executive director, and Mary L. Gautier, senior research associate. It was published by Orbis Books.

## Pope says those who approach God will be welcomed with love

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Fac-

ing a huge banner wishing him well for his 83rd birthday, Pope John Paul II told visitors at his weekly general audience that those who approach God with a "contrite heart" will be embraced with love. As many as 25,000 people attended the audience in St. Peter's Square May 14, four days before the pope's birthday. The crowd included a 10,000-member-strong pilgrimage from Salerno, Italy, with some holding a banner reading, "Best Wishes, Holy Father."

The pope's audience talk focused on the Book of Daniel's Canticle of Azariah, a penitential prayer arising not from "discouragement or fear, but hope." Facing martyrdom, Azariah is in a desperate situation, but so are the Israelites who have been exiled, the pope said. "In that tragic present situation, hope seeks its roots in the past, that is, in the promise made to their fathers" that God's chosen people would be blessed with life and peace, he said.

**4 SYLVA** — St. Mary Church will be offering a four-part series on praying the "Prayer of the Church," as it is prayed by priests and religious as well as a growing number of lay people around the world. The monthly sessions are scheduled for Wednesday evenings following the 5:30 p.m. Mass, 6-7 p.m. Session II will be "Introduction to the book 'Christian Prayer,'" and will address how to pray morning prayer in a community, and what options are available. As materials must be prepared, please call the office (828) 586-9496 to pre-register.

## With revised lexicon, Vatican hopes for 'renovatio vigoris' of Latin

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — If the history of the war in Iraq is ever written in Latin, people will no doubt read about a "bellum prohibitivum" undertaken to eliminate "universalis destructionis armamenta." Those who don't immediately recognize the Latin equivalents of "preventive war" and "weapons of mass destruction" needn't worry — a team of Vatican scholars is making sure you can look it up. After 12 years, the Vatican has decided to update its 1991 dictionary of contemporary Latin, the "Lexicon Recentis Latinitas." The 700-page dictionary gained fame as the repository of such new terms as "coercitio mentis" (brainwashing), "res inexplicata volans" (UFO) and "sphaeriludium electricum" (pinball machine). Originally issued in two parts, the lexicon was recently republished in a single volume. There's been a slow but steady demand for the unique resource, and over the last decade about 3,000 copies have been sold.

**5 WINSTON-SALEM** — The Healing Companions is a grief support group for the bereaved which meets the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month in conference room B at St. Leo the Great Church, 335 Springdale Ave. For further details, call Joanne Parcel at (336) 924-9478.

**5 HICKORY** — St. Aloysius Church, 921 Second St. NE, will hold a Charismatic Mass today in Sebastian Chapel at 7 p.m. A Charismatic Mass will be held the first Thursday every of each month. For further information, contact Joan Moran (828)-327-0487.

**5 GUILFORD COUNTY** — Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, Guilford County, Division 1, an Irish-Catholic social, cultural and charitable inter-parish group, will meet tonight at 7:30 p.m. St. Pius X Church, Kloster Center, at N. Elm St. and Cornwalis Dr. in Greensboro. RSVP to Elaine McHale, President, 292-1118 to attend meeting. All Catholic women of Irish birth or descent are welcome.



## FIGHTING FOR LIFE

# Death penalty moratorium may be in North Carolina's future

*Diocese of Charlotte members join rally for life in Raleigh*

By JOHN STRANGE  
NC CATHOLIC STAFF

RALEIGH — With the North Carolina Senate approving a moratorium on the death penalty April 30, the state is closer than it has ever been to halting executions for a two-year study.

"I am hopeful and confident," said Steve Dear, director of People of Faith Against the Death Penalty, "but only as much as I feel people will take action. It's up to people with formed consciences."

Dear said that many have already taken action. During a rally at the General Assembly May 6, 50 delegations met with their representatives to lobby for a moratorium.

The Catholic community of North Carolina has been indispensable, he said.

"I am proud of the response of the Catholic community," said Dear, a parishioner at Holy Family Church in Hillsborough. "As a Catholic, I'm proud of their response, from the bishops to the people in the pews."

"They really changed minds and touched hearts."

Among Catholics at the rally was a busload of about 40 people from Charlotte, Gastonia and Cabarrus County.

"More Catholic congregations endorsed the moratorium than any other single denomination in the state," Dear said. "They definitely had an impact. This is an example of Catholic social teaching having a clear and beneficial impact on our society. This is an example of Catholics of faith and conscience understanding and discerning what is being done in their name, and taking action."

The Senate bill now sits in the House, where a simple majority of 61 votes is needed. So far, Dear said, it appears that as many as 45 representatives support a moratorium.

"The House of Representatives is kind of like the rest of the country and the state," he said. Some are core death penalty abolitionists, and some are core death penalty supporters. But at least half are

"open to the idea" of a moratorium.

Dear said the moratorium bill is expected to be sent to a judicial committee. From there, he said, it could see a House vote as early as June.

He said he could not speculate on what Gov. Mike Easley will do if the House approves the bill. The governor's office has not said whether he would veto a moratorium.

At the rally May 6, many speakers focused on the fact that two men - Alan Gell and Jerry Hamilton - were released from death row in the past four months because the courts found that prosecutors withheld exculpatory evidence from defense attorneys. They also spoke often of the high numbers of blacks, Hispanics, and the poor on death row.

"The death penalty system does not work," said Rep. Paul Luebke, a Durham County Democrat. Defense attorneys assigned to capital cases are often unqualified and incompetent, he said.

"Virtually every resident of death row is a poor person. You don't have rich people on death row because they would never accept these attorneys."

Rep. Larry Womble, a Democrat representing Forsyth County and a member of the Legislative Black Caucus, said the caucus is "100 percent solid" behind the moratorium.

"It's past time to pass it. We should have done it long ago," he said.

The possibility of executing an innocent prisoner is just too strong, he said. "You can't erase a death."

Dear said the statewide support for a moratorium is historic. Among the local governments that have endorsed the measure are Asheville, Carrboro, Chapel Hill, Cary, Greensboro, Charlotte, Fayetteville, Durham and Winston-Salem. More than 50,000 people have signed petitions, he said, and 750,000 organizations and churches also support a moratorium.

"People on death row who are found innocent are the lucky ones," said Dear, referring to the two men recently released from death row. "What about the unlucky ones?"

"Our legislators need to take a tough, hard look at the death penalty and have the courage to admit there is a lethal problem."

*John Strange is the editor the NC Catholic. This story was reprinted with permission.*

## Confirming the faith



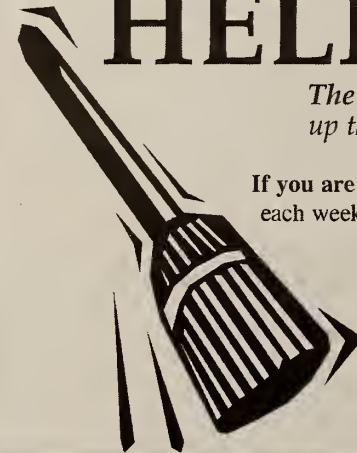
COURTESY PHOTO

### Bishop Curlin confirms youth in Cherokee

Alex Cruz, Albert Cruz, Salvador Moreno and Stephen Sauer — pictured with Bishop William G. Curlin, bishop emeritus of the Diocese of Charlotte — celebrated the sacrament of confirmation at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church in Cherokee April 27.

Confirmation is one of the three sacraments of initiation, along with baptism and Eucharist. "... the reception of the sacrament of confirmation is necessary for the completion of baptismal grace. By the sacrament of confirmation, the baptized are more perfectly bound to the church and are enriched with a special strength of the Holy Spirit. Hence they are, as true witnesses of Christ, more strictly obliged to spread and defend the faith by word and deed." ("Catechism of the Catholic Church" 1285, "Order of Confirmation, Introduction 1" and "Code of Canon Law" canon 879)

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# Knights of Columbus celebrate centennial of brotherhood in N.C.

By KAREN A. EVANS  
STAFF WRITER

CHARLOTTE — For 100 years, North Carolina Knights of Columbus have provided spiritual, emotional and financial support to members and their families. The Knights commemorated their first century of existence at their statewide convention May 16-18 in Charlotte.

North Carolina is home to 105 councils from Kill Devils Hills in the east to Franklin in the west.

Father Michael J. McGivney, curate at St. Mary's Church in New Haven, Conn., founded the Knights in 1882 to provide for the financial needs of families. At a time when many Irish immigrants worked at dangerous jobs for little pay, the premature death of the family breadwinner often devastated a family.

Father McGivney envisioned an organization to help Catholic families deal with this crisis. Thus, the Knights of Columbus were founded by a small group of men who vowed to be defenders of their country, their families and their faith.

Since that humble beginning, the Knights, named in honor of Christopher Columbus, have expanded their membership to include 1.6 million members in 13,000 councils worldwide. Their financial support includes \$45.6 billion in insurance holdings and \$125 million in charitable donations in 2001.

"The primary mission of the Knights of Columbus is universal," said former Supreme Knight Virgil C. Dechant. "That is to support society at large, but not forgetting its own members and families."

Dechant was the keynote speaker for the awards banquet of the Knights statewide convention May 18.

Knights of Columbus are dedicated to the tenets of charity, unity, fraternity, patriotism and defense of the priesthood. According to the Knights of Columbus



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

## 100 years of Columbianism in North Carolina

Knights of Columbus gathered in Charlotte May 16-18 for the 2003 State Convention.

Pictured left to right are Msgr. Anthony Marcaccio, state chaplain; N.C. State Deputy Tony Petite; Candy Petite; Bishop William G. Curlin, bishop emeritus; Ann Dechant; former Supreme Knight Virgil C. Dechant; and Msgr. Michael P. Shugrue, vicar general for the Diocese of Raleigh.

Web site, the Knights work "to fulfill the central mission of the Order: striving in charitable works; serving the Church and unified in following its teachings; supporting brother Knights in their temporal and spiritual needs; acting for the good of their country; and giving aid to widows, orphans, the sick and the poor."

Specifically, the Knights participate in programs that support pro-life activities, the Special Olympics, health service programs, decency and the combating of substance abuse.

The Knights' civic involvement consists of urging citizens to vote, taking

part in community recreation programs, patriotic observances, penal reform programs and cultural activities. Councils consistently recognize outstanding civil servants, police officers, firefighters, emergency medical technicians and others in their communities with certificates of merit.

Knights councils support firefighters and police officers in particular, providing college educations for the children of public servants killed in the line of duty, according to David Wellmon, assistant general agent of North Carolina and South Carolina. Forty-seven police officers and firefighters who were killed in the Sept. 11 attacks on the World Trade Center were Knights. Within two months of the

attacks, the Knights of Columbus insurance agents had delivered \$3,000 Heroes Fund checks to the families of 334 New York City firefighters, police officers and Port Authority police officers lost in the attacks, for a total of \$1,002,000.

The Knights further support the U.S. armed services, donating 10,000 rosaries to troops stationed in Iraq and 100,000 books of Catholic prayers for military personnel.

Stalwart defenders of the right to life, Knights of Columbus offer guaranteed life insurance benefits for uninsurable children, death benefits for stillborn or miscarried children, orphan benefits and member and spouse accidental death benefits, needs that often fall outside coverage of traditional insurance plans.

Moreover, the Knights of Columbus have joined the Catholic Bishops Pro-Life Secretariat to sponsor ads by the Woman Deserve Better campaign, which brings attention to the harmful physical and emotional consequences of abortion. They supported efforts to pass the Partial-Birth Abortion Ban that was recently approved by the U.S. Senate and participated in the annual March for Life.

In 1999, the Knights raised and donated more than \$17.8 million to benefit people with mental retardation and programs supporting them. North Carolina Knights contribute to the Special Olympics North Carolina, which provides year-round sports training and competition for more than 32,000 children and adults with mental retardation in nearly all 100 North Carolina counties—the fifth largest program in the United States.

The Knights encourage the spiritual growth of each of its members through participation in church ceremonies, prayer and charitable works. The Knights also provide support to the Vatican, financing a \$33 million restoration of the facade of St. Peter's Basilica and restoration of the Basilica's Maderno Atrium. They further finance church development projects, available to dioceses, parishes, Catholic schools and hospitals or any other Catholic facility.

Support for vocations is another important mission of the Knights, according to Dechant.

In 1999, approximately 60 percent of all seminarians received some form of financial support from the Knights and some 4,400 seminarians were sponsored in 2002. The Knights maintain a vocations scholarship endowment fund of \$9 million from which annual scholarships of \$2,500 are awarded to needy seminarians. In 2000, 143 scholarships were awarded and approximately 497 seminarians received such scholarships since 1992.

"...I am most pleased that the Knights have continued to emphasize the need for profound spiritual renewal as the basis for the many and varied initiatives undertaken in support of the Church's mission," Pope John Paul II wrote in his letter to the supreme council of the Knights of Columbus July 10, 2002.

Contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans by calling (704) 370-3354 or e-mail [kaevans@charlottediocese.org](mailto:kaevans@charlottediocese.org).

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# Father Ramon Berg dies at 79

BREVARD — Father Ramon A. Berg, 79, died Thursday, May 15, 2003. He was a retired priest of the Diocese of Charlotte.

Born Sept. 29, 1923, in the Chicago suburb of Elmwood Park, Ill., Father Berg was a convert to Catholicism and came to the priesthood late in life after the death of his wife, Florence "Peaches" Stump Berg. He was also preceded in death by his parents, Godfrey and Amy Swanson Berg; one son, Brian Ramon Berg; one brother, Gordon Berg; and one sister, Virginia Berg.

After serving in the U.S. Army during World War II, he entered the Illinois Institute of Technology and graduated in 1952 with a degree in

their son, Brian, the following year. Brian died in 1986 after several months in a coma following a motorcycle accident in Chicago.

After his wife's death in 1973, Berg began seriously considering the priesthood and entered Sacred Heart School of Theology at Hales Corner, Wis., in 1978. He was ordained by Bishop Michael J. Begley, then-bishop of Charlotte, at St. Patrick Cathedral in Charlotte Sept. 25, 1982.

Father Berg served as parochial vicar of Sacred Heart Church in Salisbury in 1979, St. Vincent de Paul Church in Charlotte in 1981, St. John Neumann Church in Charlotte from 1982-84, pastor of Sacred Heart Church in Brevard and St. Jude Church in Sapphire Valley from 1984-91, and as administrator of Lady of the Mountain in Highlands and St. Jude in Sapphire Valley from 1984-1996.

Father Berg was deeply interested

in the Catholic charismatic renewal and was a frequent speaker at diocesan charismatic retreats and conferences. He was granted retirement in July 1996 with a residence in Brevard.

Survivors include one brother, Vernon Berg; and one sister, Marian Suhajda, both of Roselle, Ill.

A funeral Mass was conducted May 19 at Sacred Heart Church. Msgr. Mauricio W. West, diocesan administrator, was the celebrant.

*Memorials may be made to the Parish Endowment Fund of Sacred Heart Catholic Church, 4 Brian Berg Lane, Brevard, N.C. 28712.*



Father Ramon A. Berg

metallurgical engineering. For the next 25 years, he worked as an engineer for a number of firms in the Chicago area.

An agnostic in his younger years, Father Berg said he came to a "spiritual turning point" when his wife and he decided to adopt a child. He began taking instruction and converted to Catholicism in 1955. The Bergs adopted



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## Beloved church secretary dies at 53

*Editor's note: Linda Boyers was featured in the March 7, 2003 issue of The Catholic News & Herald.*

**BLACK MOUNTAIN** — Linda L. Boyers, 53, died Saturday May 10, 2003, at her residence.

Boyers worked as the parish secretary for St. Margaret Mary Church in Swannanoa from 1995 until her death.

Boyers was born on Oct. 15, 1949 in Springfield, Mass., to William and Dorothy Ouimette. She enlisted in the U.S. Army and served her country during the Vietnam War. Boyers worked for nine years as an addictions counselor with the Black Mountain Center. She was most known for her work at St. Margaret Mary Catholic Church.

Boyers began at the church as a volunteer in 1994 after an illness left her unable to return to work at Blue Ridge Mental Health Center. A year or so later, she was hired full-time at the church.

"She was a great parish administrator," said parishioner Douglas Thigpen, who helped coordinate a Feb. 23 parish celebration in appreciation for Boyers' years of service. Approximately 140 people attended the event.

"She gave my faith more strength even when she did not feel well," said Father Andy Latsko, pastor, in the

March 7 story. "She showed me what it is to love Jesus."

Father Latsko officiated the funeral Mass held May 14 at St. Margaret Mary Church.



Linda Boyers

In addition to her parents, she is survived by a son and daughter, brother and sisters, and grandson.

*Donations may be made in Linda's memory to St. Margaret Mary Church, 102 Andrew Place, Swannanoa, N.C. 28778.*

## TREATS FOR TROOPS



COURTESY PHOTO

## Brownie Troops cheer up Americans serving overseas

**GREENSBORO** — Second-graders in Brownie Troop 533 at St. Pius X School wanted to do something nice for the Army soldiers "adopted" by their school.

While selling Girl Scout cookies, the Brownies asked friends and neighbors to each buy an extra box for the Brownies to ship overseas to the soldiers — members of 1st Platoon, Alpha Company, 3rd Battalion of the 504 Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division, who were deployed to Afghanistan in January.

The Brownies collected over 170 boxes and sent them with the slogan, "From Our Troop to Your Troop."

Sergeant First Class Byron Cousin wrote a letter of gratitude to Lori Gulla, St. Pius X School Counselor who inspired the Brownie Troop. "Thank you Troop 533. Thank all the teachers, thank St. Pius X ... Words cannot express our feelings toward you and St. Pius," he wrote.

The Brownie Troop, carrying on a tradition started last year, also sent 24 boxes of Girl Scout cookies to the U.S. Embassy in Tel Aviv, Israel. Last year, the Brownies' message was "Don't give up on peace," as the embassy was assisting in fragile peace negotiations. This year, the Brownies' message read, "Don't give up on peace, even now."

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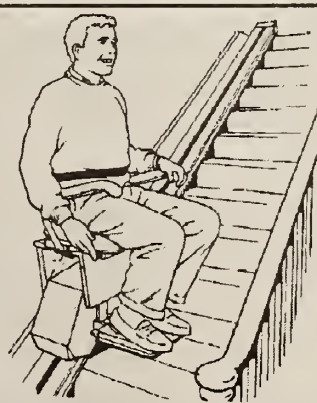
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## ST. JOSEPH, from page 1

piece of our heritage."

On May 18, some 25 people joined Father Hoover at St. Joseph Church as he celebrated his 27th ordination anniversary. Many of those in attendance — some from as far away as Boone — were people who adore the old church and love to see it used, he said.

"I've talked to maybe 150-200 people who have relatives buried here (in the cemetery)," said Heil. "They tell the stories of things that happened years ago, which makes me very proud to be here."

The church accommodates nearly 100 parishioners. It has no electricity, no bathroom; six big windows were used to light and heat the church.

"Seventy percent of these windows are the original glass, with the bubbles in them and everything," said Heil.

The lack of conveniences adds to the church's charm, said Father Hoover. "You get a sense of how things were a long time ago."

A small room for a priest is located at the rear of the church; on the Spartan walls are 19th-century photographs showing how Catholicism's roots in North Carolina took hold at this tiny church near the banks of the Catawba River.

### Back in the day

The discovery of gold in North Carolina lured miners from across the ocean to what is now Gaston County. Six Irish Catholic families, living in River Bend on the western bank of the Catawba, worshipped in a chapel inside the lavish home of Chevalier Riva De Finola, the French-Italian owner of several gold mines.

De Finola hoped to develop a church, but plans were deferred for a decade when his mines were closed by an 1832 court injunction.

"The (miners) were very poor ... all they had were their lands ... but being very dedicated Catholic people from Ireland, they wanted a church," said Heil.

A missionary priest, Father J.J. O'Connell, traveling via horseback across Georgia and the Carolinas, brought infrequent Masses to the area, but the remaining miners wanted to establish a parish. One of the families, the Lonegrans, offered to donate over six acres if the bishop of Charleston, S.C., would build them a church.

Bishop John England of Charleston agreed, but only if the families helped raised money for construction. The bishop assigned Father T.J. Cronin to serve the River Bend Catholics, and be-



PHOTOS BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

**Above: A stone wall and gate welcome visitors to St. Joseph Church.**

**Right: Volunteers close the windows and shutters after Mass.**

**Below: The church cemetery dates back to the 1800s.**

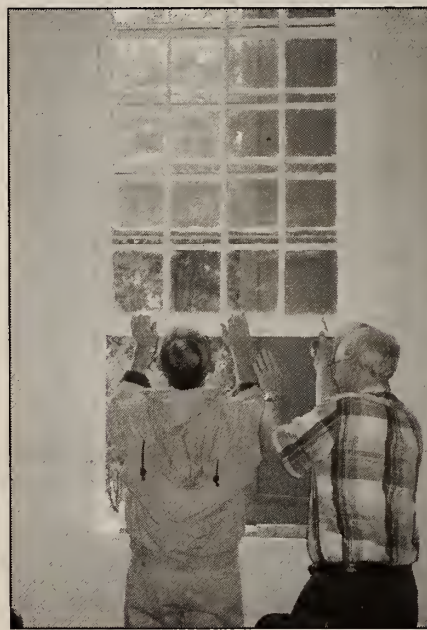


gan accepting contributions to the building fund. In 1842, before work was completed, Father Cronin died from yellow fever. He was buried in St. Joseph's cemetery.

St. Joseph Church was completed in 1843. The Irish immigrants were so thrilled they inscribed "Habemus Altare" ("We have an altar") above the humble altar.

Bishop Ignatius Reynolds, second bishop of Charleston, dedicated the church in 1844, making St. Joseph Church the fourth Catholic church in North Carolina. During the same year, St. Paul Church in New Bern, the state's first Catholic church built in 1841, was dedicated (churches had also been built in Raleigh and Fayetteville). Today, St. Joseph and St. Paul stand as the oldest Catholic churches in the state.

Father O'Connell, the area's mission priest, became the sixth and final pastor



of the tiny St. Joseph parish, and he is attributed with purchasing the land that would later become Belmont Abbey.

After the Civil War, all but one of St. Joseph Church's families remained, and when Belmont Abbey opened six miles away in 1876, area Catholics were relegated under the care of the Benedictine monks.

St. Joseph Church was briefly used as a hay barn around the turn of the century, said Heil, but the building was otherwise neglected over the years. A badly deteriorated roof offered little re-

sistance to the elements, and only two shutters remained intact.

### Continuing efforts

In the early 1970s, efforts were made under then-Bishop Michael Begley of Charlotte to restore the church to its original splendor. The exterior, altar and pews regained their 19th century charm.

"All they did was refinish what was here. Nothing was replaced," said Heil.

"It's wonderful that Bishop Begley took that initiative," said Father Hoover. "We need a sense of our history."

In 1979, the church was designated as a National Historical Site by the State of North Carolina and the U.S. Department of Interior. In October 1993, Msgr. John J. McSweeney, then-diocesan administrator, celebrated the sesquicentennial celebration of St. Joseph Church.

"We are here for the people that made this building possible," said Msgr. McSweeney that day. "St. Joseph stands as a holy testament to their faith."

The continuing efforts of Heil and others are a tribute to the immigrants' faith.

"Carl takes great pride in keeping it up," said Father Hoover. "He's out there regularly. The church is looking better than it's ever looked."

Of the numerous gravestones Heil has repaired over the years, none of the damages were caused by vandalism. He said the community respects the church: volunteers and area residents — Catholic and non-Catholic alike — have helped with the upkeep.

"There's a lot of history here, and I'd like to see more people get involved with keeping it up," said volunteer Clinton Phillips, a parishioner of Queen of the Apostles in Belmont.

"It's here for everybody to enjoy," said Heil. "But there are those who do not know this place exists. They have no idea what came before them. It's such a shame."

Heil offered a reason for the church's longevity:

"We've had many chances of this place burning down, because there's no water on the property; there hasn't been a well here since the 1800s. Yet nothing's ever happened," he said. "The Lord's kept his eye on it."

Contact Acting Editor Kevin E. Murray by calling (704) 370-3334 or e-mail [kemurray@charlottediocese.org](mailto:kemurray@charlottediocese.org).

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## CATECHISTS, from page 1

"What I'm telling them is that any time they're doing something good, they're helping themselves, in the image of Jesus," he said. "Most of them have seen me serve Mass. I feel strongly about that, and I tell them I try to act the way the Lord would want me to act."

Pat Cain, pastoral associate at St. Joan of Arc Church in Asheville, helps people walk with Christ, "mostly by listening to people's stories and trying to meet them where they are and walk with them however they want to walk, affirming where they are and trying to connect with the message of Jesus."

Since 1967, Cain has been involved in baptism preparation, RCIA, youth ministry and has served as director of religious education. Her most profound experiences, she said, involve those moments when people make that faith commitment.

"For me, that takes a lot of guts," she said. "I think it takes a lot for adults in this world to make that decision."

Cain has found that the most common reason people join the Catholic Church is the people they meet, the peace they find. "It's God's peace that we give each other," she said.

Margie Joseph first saw Jesus mirrored in her neighbor and fellow Immaculate Conception Church parishioner, John Connelly.

Joseph had never belonged to any church, so she was curious about what Connelly did, partly because of how he lived his faith.

"There was a tenderness, a compassion; there wasn't anything I had done that surprised him," Joseph said. "He listened to me. Then he said, 'OK, this is what I do, I go to daily Mass.'"

Joseph began attending Mass. "I don't know how to put it into words," she said, "but there was such a feeling of peace."

She was baptized in April 1999 during the Easter Vigil. Now she is a catechist for third-graders at the Hendersonville church and last October became a professed member of the St. Francis of the Hills Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order.

"I try to focus on the positive," she said. "This is what I try to instill, not only in my own children but in my students as well. It's like what (St.)

Francis said: 'Go into all the world and preach the Gospel. Use words if necessary.' That was a profound statement in my decision to become a Franciscan. That statement is it in a nutshell."

"At whatever level catechesis takes place, we must proclaim the person of Jesus. It's that person of Jesus that makes us authentic Christians," said Father George Kloster, pastor of St. William Church in Murphy and its mission church Immaculate Heart of Mary in Hayesville.

Father Kloster talked about the importance of proclaiming Jesus in his homily at Mass in Immaculate Conception Church in Hendersonville, part of the third annual catechist appreciation evening in the Asheville Vicariate May 9.

Other appreciation dinners are being held around the diocese for both catechists and catechetical leaders.

"You try to impress upon your cat-



PHOTO BY JOANITA M. NELLENBACH

**Five- and six-year-olds pray with their catechists at the end of a session in St. Margaret Church's parish hall. Elizabeth Darguzas holds a candle. With her are Tracy Fowler (second from left), Matthew Fowler, Sydney Franklin, Flor Sonnerville (in background), Erin Peterson, Sinjon Stringfellow, Tami Quigley and Ashley Zander.**

echists that how they relate to people says what their belief in Jesus is," said Tom Mahan, parishioner of Sacred Heart Church in Brevard and a member of the Asheville Vicariate Faith Formation Team.

"I really believe that one of the most important things we communicate is hope. Without hope there isn't any charity or faith," he said.

Contact Correspondent Joanita M. Nellenbach by calling (828) 627-9209 or e-mail [jjnell@dnnet.net](mailto:jjnell@dnnet.net).

## Lighting the fire of faith Catechists called to be 'noble arsonists'

By KAREN A. EVANS  
STAFF WRITER

CHARLOTTE — According to the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus said, "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you."

"Jesus offers a vision of life, relationships...a system for understanding the meaning of life and love," said Father James Hawker, vicar of education for the Diocese of Charlotte. "An integral mission of the church is to teach."

However, the work of the catechist is not merely to be a teacher of Jesus' vision,

It is legitimate for religious education in schools to be as difficult as other subjects, to be academically based, said Cris Villapando, director of faith formation programs for the Diocese of Charlotte. Catechesis, or faith formation, however, must have at the forefront a moment of evangelization.

"A catechist is a noble arsonist," he said. "They must ignite (a fire from the Holy Spirit) in order to convert, to make disciples. It is a business of ignition, rather than the deliverance of information"

According to Villapando, pastors and parish catechetical leaders looking for catechists must look for such noble arsonists. While the ability to teach — to convey information — is an asset, the burden of the catechist is one of making disciples.

"The success of faith formation fails and succeeds on that basis," he said.

Assisting in the transformation to discipleship is a means to an end, said Father Hawker.

"One cannot witness until the subject matter has become an integral part of one's being," he said. "A catechist is a teacher who witnesses, and vice versa."

"Catechetical ministry is the formation of the whole person — their values, behavior and attitude," said Father Hawker. "All of us are in a process of transformation."

Father Hawker compare today's catechist to the apostle Andrew, who is often portrayed in the Scriptures as bringing people to Jesus.

"That is exactly the work of a catechist," he said.

Father Hawker also described the parish as a catechetical community, where catechesis takes place.

"No one catechist ever does anything alone," he said. "Together, they work to bring people to Jesus."

The gift of converts is their igniting of the community with the fire of the Holy Spirit, Villapando said.

"We are very fortunate to have a program implemented by the Diocese of Charlotte that enables parishes to cultivate their personal qualities and competencies to participate more fruitfully in the mission of the church," said Father Hawker.

Contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans by calling (704) 370-3354 or e-mail [kaevans@charlottediocese.org](mailto:kaevans@charlottediocese.org).

## New Testament figure shows how to teach faith, speaker says

ST. PAUL, Minn. (CNS) — To guide people on the road to understanding and embracing the Christian faith, catechists attending an annual conference were urged to take some pointers from a New Testament example.

Father Michael Byron, an associate professor of dogmatic theology at St. Paul Seminary, told participants attending the National Conference of Catechetical Leadership May 4-8 in St. Paul to particularly focus on the story of Philip and a societal outcast found in the Acts of the Apostles.

He said Philip's reaching out to the Ethiopian eunuch, described in Acts

8:26-40 as "a man defined by his shame" and considered worthless by society, offers a lesson in how Christians can reach out to others in their mission to spread the Gospel of Jesus.

Philip "agreed to attend to whatever came along his way," Father Byron told about 800 catechists during a May 4 keynote address.

The priest said the passage was also an example of the Holy Spirit creating new possibilities for catechesis, noting that God "sends us out into the ditches for the nobodies, for the throwaways" and that all disciples "are required to follow Philip's lead."

## Adult faith formation crucial to healthy parishes

ST. PAUL, Minn. (CNS) — A mature faith community is intergenerational and multicultural, with adults at its center, said the final speaker at the National Conference for Catechetical Leadership gathering in St. Paul May 8.

Sister Edith Prendergast, in her closing speech, reiterated a common theme found throughout the conference: Adult faith formation is the core around which other parish education programs are built. She talked about the underlying principles needed — and the tasks to be done — for parishes to envision these new models for adult education.

Sister Edith, a Religious Sister of Charity and religious education director of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, compared the faith life of a healthy parish to the cross section of a tree: Like a tree's cross section, faith has rings that are living, explicit and fruitful.

### In the Diocese of Charlotte

The diocesan Catechist Recognition Process is a competency based catechist formation process. For more information, visit the diocesan Web site at [www.charlottediocese.org/catechistformation.html](http://www.charlottediocese.org/catechistformation.html)



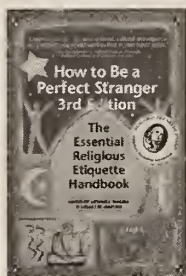
## Book Review

# New book for religious etiquette

REVIEWED BY ELIZABETH RACKOVER  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

So your cousin, who is a Mormon, sends you a beautiful invitation to her daughter's wedding reception, and you stew for a couple of days, because you weren't actually invited to the wedding. You always invite her to your family's weddings. What's the deal?

Quick, where's your copy of "How to Be a Perfect Stranger: The Essential Religious Etiquette Handbook"? If you don't have one lying around the house, now is the time to get one — before you call your cousin and chew her out for



"How to Be a Perfect Stranger: The Essential Religious Etiquette Handbook," 3rd edition, edited by Stuart M. Matlins and Arthur J. Magida. Skylight Paths (Woodstock, Vt., 2003). 432 pp., \$19.95.

ceremony must present a 'temple recommend' issued by their bishop to indicate that they are, indeed, faithful members." So, are you cooled off? Your cousin loves you, and wants to include you fully in her daughter's wedding party. You can go to the reception and hold your head high.

For the naturally curious, "How to Be a Perfect Stranger" will be interesting spot-reading. The editors are completely objective in the "history and beliefs" entries. They give equal time to each faith and suggest further reading to learn more about that faith. This comprehensive, 432-page paperback consolidates and updates two earlier hardback volumes.

This is a great sourcebook in the context of cross-cultural relationships. If, for instance, you're invited to a wedding by an office colleague, and you're unfamiliar with their culture or faith, this book will give you detailed insight on how to dress, what (if any) gift is appropriate, and even how to pronounce congratulations in that religion's language!

Clothing advice is included for all ceremonies and services, and in many cases one really, really ought to know how to dress when crossing cultural lines. Some congregations discourage flashy jewelry at services; hemlines are a source of concern for others. At some wedding ceremonies guests will end up sitting cross-legged on the floor, which most women would want to know about well in advance! Readers will be grateful, if called upon to attend a Hindu funeral, to know not to follow any instincts to wear black. Black is not appropriate at a Hindu funeral.

These editors did their homework. Now you will be able to do yours in record time, with utmost confidence.

*Rackover, a writer and publicist, lives with her family in Rochester Hills, Mich., and teaches religious education at St. Irenaeus Catholic Church.*

relegating you to second-class status. What you find may put your nose right back into its proper shape!

Let's see, Lutheran, Mennonite, Methodist — OK, here it is: Mormon (Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints) — history and beliefs, basic service, appropriate attire, life cycle events, marriage ceremony. Mmm-hmm — here it is: "Members of the church are encouraged to be married in one of its temples" and "only faithful members of the Mormon church may enter a temple. Guests invited to the temple marriage

## Word to Life

Sunday Scripture Readings:  
May 25, 2003

May 25, Sixth Sunday of  
Easter

Cycle B Readings:

- 1) Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48  
Psalm 98:1-4
- 2) 1 John 4:7-10
- 3) Gospel: John 15:9-17

By JEAN DENTON  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

My daughter Libby, a recent college grad, has been substitute teaching the last few months. She told me the other day that her boyfriend brought her a sack lunch at school that was the envy of the teachers' lounge. It was a balanced, nutritious meal of sandwich, cut-up fruit, cheese, a baggie of homemade (!) cookies and bottled water, all packed in an insulated container — just like Mom would make. How did this happen?

Two days later I ran into the young man's mother at the store. Her shopping cart was filled with spring bedding plants she was taking to her other son's apartment, out of town, to put in planters on his

patio so he could enjoy them for his final two months of college.

Role modeling. That's the basic message of this week's readings. Anyone who's been a parent long enough to see the adult emerging from their child can testify to the fact that over the long haul a parent's actions have a far greater impact than words on the person that child becomes.

Just as we want to care for another as a loving parent has cared for us, Jesus calls us to "love one another as I have loved you." Jesus is our ultimate role model. Recalling how deeply, unselfishly and un-faillingly he has loved us, in spite of our often-selfish responses, draws us to love others in the same way.

### Questions:

Who is a role model for you in offering unselfish love? Considering the specific ways Jesus has loved you, have you followed his example in the ways you have treated others?

### Scripture to Illustrate:

"Love, then, consists in this: not that we have loved God but that he has loved us" (1 John 4:10 abc).

## Weekly Scripture

### Scripture for the week of May 25 - May 31

Sunday (Sixth Sunday of Easter), Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48, 1 John 4:7-10, John 15:9-17; Monday (St. Philip Neri), Acts 16:11-15, John 15:26-16:4; Tuesday (St. Augustine of Canterbury), Acts 16:22-34, John 16:5-11; Wednesday, Acts 17:15, 22-18:1, John 16:12-15; Thursday (Ascension Thursday), Acts 1:1-11, Ephesians 1:17-23, Mark 16:15-20; Friday, Acts 18:9-18, John 16:20-23; Saturday (Visitation of Mary to Elizabeth), Romans 12:9-16, Luke 1:39-56

### Scripture for the week of June 1 - June 7

Sunday (Seventh Sunday of Easter), Acts 1:15-17, 20-26, 1 John 4:11-16, John 17:11-19; Monday (Sts. Marcellinus and Peter), Acts 19:1-8, John 16:29-33; Tuesday (St. Charles Lwanga and Companions), Acts 20:17-27, John 17:1-11; Wednesday, Acts 20:28-38, John 17:11-19; Thursday (St. Boniface), Acts 22:30; 23:6-11, John 17:20-26; Friday (St. Norbert), Acts 25:13-21, John 21:15-19; Saturday, Acts 28:16-20, 30-31, John 21:20-25

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# Jim Carrey takes on God in 'Bruce Almighty'

By KEVIN E. MURRAY  
ACTING EDITOR

CHARLOTTE — Jim Carrey is endowed with God's powers in Universal Picture's "Bruce Almighty." While a horrifying concept, the film is a surprisingly funny and touching tale about underestimating the power of God and one's self to bring about change.

Bruce Nolan (Carrey) is an ever-complaining Buffalo TV reporter whose humorous human-interest stories make everyone smile but him; Bruce wants to be taken seriously to win a coveted anchor position with the news station. When the spot goes to a rival co-worker, Bruce's disgruntled attitude gets him fired and sours his relationship with loving girlfriend Grace (Jennifer Aniston). Bruce rages against God for his rotten luck, until several signs lead him to a unique encounter with "the One."

God (Morgan Freeman) endows Bruce with his powers, challenging him to see if he can do a better job. Eventually convinced he's not dreaming, Bruce utilizes these infinite powers for his own amusement and personal gain; he ignores the prayers

he hears in his head until he lands at a crossroads: whether or not to become the most powerful jerk in the universe or discover a bit of humility in Bruce Almighty.

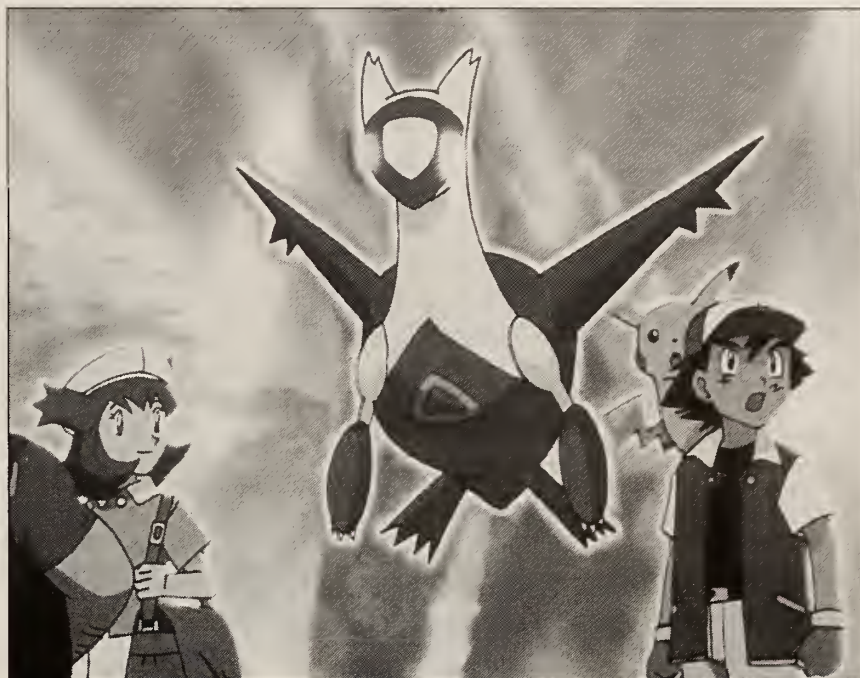
On a deeper level, funnyman Bruce's desire to be taken seriously strangely parallels Carrey's own longing to be regarded as a serious actor, as evident in his previous films "The Truman Show" and "The Majestic."

Smartly directed by Tom Shadyac, a Catholic, "Bruce Almighty" balances Carrey's renowned comic buffoonery with a well-scripted tale about the true meaning of power and miracles — those that lie in the hands of everyday people. While an overall uplifting movie, Catholics may be discouraged by Bruce and Grace's pre-marital living arrangements and love affair.

The film does contain some crude humor and language, and an implied sexual encounter, giving it a Motion Picture Association rating of PG-13. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting has yet to review the film.

Contact Acting Editor Kevin E. Murray by calling (704) 370-3334 or e-mail [kemurray@charlottediocese.org](mailto:kemurray@charlottediocese.org).

# Nothing heroic about 'Pokemon Heroes'



CNS PHOTO FROM MIRAMAX

Latias shows off her psychic abilities in the animated film "Pokemon Heroes," the fifth installment of the series of Japanese animated films based on the popular Pokemon trading cards and video game craze. This silly clunker is little more than an extended commercial for Pokemon products, and while it might rate a thumbs-up from young fans, adults will find it a snore. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-I — general patronage. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is G — general audiences.

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## The Pope Speaks

POPE JOHN PAUL II

### Pope, at audience, says God always near when people struggle

By CINDY WOODEN  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — God will never abandon his faithful in their struggles with evil and oppression, Pope John Paul II said.

"Only with divine assistance can we overcome the dangers and difficulties which blemish each day of our lives," the pope said May 21 during his weekly general audience.

Continuing a long series of audience talks about the psalms and canticles used in morning prayer, the pope focused on King David's prayer for victory and prosperity in Psalm 144.

The prayer recognizes both the absolute power of God and the fragility of every human being, describing man as being like a breath and his life like a passing shadow.

The contrast between God's power and the weakness of human beings underscores how dependent people are on heavenly help in facing both social injustice and personal temptation, he said.

"Evilness, perversion, oppression and injustice" are "tremendous realities from which the Lord will free us," he said.

The psalm's hymn of praise expresses the certainty that God will never abandon his people in their struggle, Pope John Paul said.

"Let us rejoice and bear witness to this hope for which our world longs," he said.

Pope John Paul's ride around St. Peter's Square in an open popemobile was preceded by the slow chug-chug of a little circus train with a larger-than-life papier-mache Pinocchio and his storybook friends.

The train, decorated with children's statements and drawings aimed at ending discrimination against people with handicaps, is usually found at nursery and elementary schools in Genoa. Some 1,500 children and adults committed to promoting inclusion made a pilgrimage to Rome with the train.

### How many will be saved?

Cardinal Avery Dulles recently raised this ancient question: What percentage of those alive today will be saved?

He explained that in the Middle Ages the majority of theologians believed that 50 percent of the people would go to hell. But there was one famous thinker, a Franciscan theologian named Duns Scotus, who taught that eventually everyone would be saved, even the fallen angels. He saw universal salvation in God's infinite mercy. This is a comforting thought, but it goes against reason.

Some people hate God and do not want to spend eternity with him. Will they be forced to go to heaven against their will? The church teaches that there are no love-slaves in heaven.

Many believe that all you have to do is accept Jesus as Lord, and your salvation is assured. But Jesus taught that not everyone who says "Lord, Lord" will enter the kingdom of heaven. Read Chapter 25 of St. Matthew's Gospel where Jesus spells out some of the requirements for gaining entry to heaven: "When I was hungry did you give me to eat?"

Who knows how many will be saved despite themselves? Someone once said that there are eight sacraments, with ignorance as the eighth, and that's the one that saves the most people.

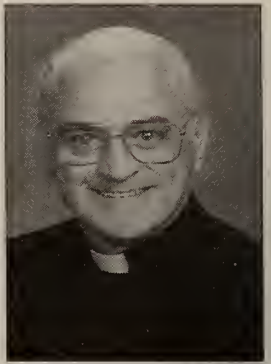
The human conscience is an internal warning system that helps us to know right from wrong. "Do good and avoid evil" is the basic moral dictum. Disagreements may arise over what is permissible in a given set of circumstances, but the essential principle never changes: "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you."

Conscience is the guidance system that enables us to distinguish right from wrong. It brings with it an accompanying urge to do what is right. When we fail to do what is right, we tend to feel guilty. A healthy guilt may be annoying, but more often than not it is a blessing in disguise.

Everyone has the right, and indeed the obligation, to

## Spirituality for Today

FATHER JOHN CATOIR  
CNS COLUMNIST



follow his or her conscience. No one should ever be forced to go against a certain conscience. However, some people ignore the urgings of conscience in order to get what they want. This is wrong.

Flowing from human nature are certain rights that we can enjoy, like the right to a good name, the right to private property, to an education, to freedom of religion, etc. Corresponding to these rights are certain duties. We all have the duty to respect those same rights in others. To rationalize bad behavior is to lie to oneself.

There are no easy answers to many complex moral questions, but at the heart of every guilty conscience is a reasonable fear of God's punishment. We can never rule out the fact that God does punish. In fact, punishment is built into life itself. If you treat others unkindly, they will retaliate. Love begets love, and hate begets hate.

We know that God forgives, and humans even forgive, but nature does not forgive. For instance, those who abuse drugs and eventually destroy their bodies create their own hell on earth. To avoid such folly, one must listen to the voice of conscience and go for spiritual help.

Do not hold your soul hostage. Life is consequential.

When all else fails, pray to Jesus for the grace of final perseverance.

## Letters to the Editor

### Pope's writings important for marriage

I eagerly read the story on marriage as a sacrament ("Marriage: Ceremony or sacrament?" May 9, 2003). I was surprised to find no mention of what has to be one of the most extraordinary gifts ever given to Christian marriage: Pope John Paul II's theology of the body.

Of all that has been written in the history of the church on love, marriage, procreation, fertility regulation and family, about two-thirds has been written by this pope. It is a stupendous gift for men and children, but especially for women. I am so grateful that, as a mother, I have been able to pass it on to our children as they prepare and have prepared for marriage.

Marriages — Catholic marriages included — started falling apart in tragically high numbers in the 1960s. The key to putting it all back together is Pope John Paul's explanation of why the church teaches what it does about marriage, and how beautiful it is. Young people preparing for marriage deserve no less.

Patricia Glass  
Asheville

### Second marriage preparation missing from story

We read the "Marriage: Ceremony or sacrament?" (May 9, 2003) story with great interest. Well done, but we suggest you might also want to touch on the issue of second marriages within the church.

As a point of validation, we are in a second

marriage. In Cleveland, Ohio, we were diocesan coordinators of the program for second marriages, which we identified as Cana II. When we moved to Greensboro, N.C., we were part of the St. Paul the Apostle Church Pre-Cana program for a number of years before moving to be the annulment support couple for a number of years.

In dealing with the hundreds of couples involved in a second marriage for at least one of the engaged partners, we found the normal first marriage material missed the mark for those who carry the baggage of a previous marriage (or long-term relationship). Children, alimony, families of the former spouse, annulment, etc., all added to the odds of second marriage success.

The last stats I recall indicated first marriages failed on the plus side of 50 percent, and second marriages were over 70 percent prone to fail.

It has been our belief for some time that Charlotte should seriously consider the niche needs of those entering second or third marriages.

Leo and Alice Gottschalk  
Jamestown

### Letters to the Editor

*The Catholic News & Herald welcomes letters from readers. We ask that letters be originals of 250 words or less.*

*To be considered for publication, each letter must include the name, address and phone number of the writer for purpose of verification. Letters may be condensed due to space limitations and edited for clarity, style and taste.*

*Send letters to Letters to Editor, The Catholic News & Herald, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, N.C. 28237, or e-mail catholicnews@charlottediocese.org.*





## Light One Candle

MSGR. JIM LISANTE  
GUEST COLUMNIST

### Letters from old friends

You never know what the mail will bring from one day to the next at The Christophers, except that it's bound to be interesting. And more often than not, it's likely to bring good news as well.

That was certainly the case on one recent day at the beginning of April, when two letters provided us with the best kind of spring tonic we could imagine.

One started off on a sad note. It came from a man informing us of the death of his mother, a long-time Christopher friend who, with her late husband, had raised a large family and had taken pains to make sure that all of her children knew right from wrong. As executor of his mother's estate, the son told us of the generous bequest the woman had made to The Christophers. As you can imagine, this news cheered us; it meant that we would be able to advance our Christopher activities in a significant way. But what really made our day was what the man wrote next: "My mother supported various Catholic charities throughout her life and recognized the importance of The Christophers in using the media to spread the faith and inspire good works. Over the years, Mom would cut out and save inspirational messages from your periodicals, and remind us as we were growing up that 'It is better to light one candle...'"

### The church's stand on word and Communion services

*Q. Would you discuss the Catholic Church's stand on word and Communion services, mentioned often in bulletins of parishes in our area. Is such a service allowed? Is it a common practice in the church or just in our area? (Wisconsin)*

A. Ceremonies consisting of the Liturgy of the Word followed by holy Communion are legitimate Catholic rites and are common in our country and other parts of the world.

The ritual to be followed in these ceremonies is found in the liturgical manual "Sunday Celebrations in the Absence of a Priest," prepared by the American Catholic bishops' Committee on the Liturgy.

As the title of this relatively new ritual suggests, the need for such a rite was occasioned by the decline in the number of priests to the point where many parishes are without priests for the Sunday celebration of the Eucharist. The purpose, therefore, was to provide a rite over which lay people, religious sisters or brothers, or deacons could preside.

The ceremony resembles the Mass without the Eucharistic Prayer. It includes an introduction, a "litany in praise of God's mercy" (penitential rite), opening prayer, usual Scripture readings, homily or reflection on the readings, intercessions and profession of faith. The reflection on the readings is done by a deacon or by a layperson delegated by the bishop to present a brief explanation of the Bible texts to assist the people's faith.

The Communion rite follows: Lord's Prayer, sign of peace, pre-Communion prayers and Communion, with concluding prayer and dismissal.

### Sinning against the Holy Spirit

*Q. I wish to return to the sacraments after 34 years, but I believe I have sinned more than once against the Holy Spirit. The Bible says this particular sin can never be forgiven.*

*All my children and grandchildren are loving, unself-*

Surely our founder, Father James Keller, would have been thrilled to know that the message he always championed had been attended to so lovingly, in just the way he would have liked. And then the next letter that day carried another link to Father Keller, one that was even more personal.

This one came from a woman in the Midwest who had been inspired as a student 65 years ago when Father Keller came to speak at her high school. It wasn't until 1945 that the Maryknoll priest founded The Christophers, but even before that he was a noted speaker who continually urged people, especially young people, to make a difference in the world.

Indeed this woman did. She came to New York in 1951 and ended up working for Father Keller himself — first as a secretary, then as a writer, and eventually as a key aide in the production and distribution of Christopher television programs. "The News Note that came just a while ago about your 50th anniversary has brought back many memories," she wrote.

"One time," she continued, "I was able to go with Father Keller to Hollywood and was there when he interviewed Bob Hope, Bing Crosby and a few others, which was quite an experience. I was supposedly in one of the films, but like many others was left on the cutting room floor!"

She eventually tired of big-city life — but not of being a true Christopher. She won a degree in social work, worked with disturbed children, opened a Birthright office, and finally became an advocate for the elderly before retiring. When we called to thank her for the letter and the donation that came with it, she apologized for having to run off: she was on her way to deliver Meals on Wheels!

Sometimes people write to tell us how they live out the Christopher message. Sometimes they just go and do it. Either way, I can't tell you how much it means to us.

## Question Corner

FATHER JOHN DIETZEN  
CNS COLUMNIST



*ish, caring and generous people, but none of them are good Catholics today, and it's my fault.*

*If I go to confession and receive absolution I will still wonder if the priest is orthodox or too lenient. Can you tell me what is a sin against the Holy Spirit? I want to get back to Communion. (Ohio)*

A. Christian theologians have pondered the same question for hundreds of years. St. Augustine, St. Thomas and others believed that by "unforgivable sin" (Mt 12:31) Jesus meant the sin of final unrepentance, a refusal to repent of one's rejection of God by serious sin even at the moment of death.

Whatever the meaning of this passage, no matter what sins you may have committed or how bad you think they are, nothing is more important for you (and for all of us) than to trust totally in God's unconditional love and put yourself in his merciful hands.

While in some ways your children are not today what you hoped, you obviously have been a good mother to have them turn out to be the kind of people you say they are. God will always bless you for that.

It does no good to fret about such things. If we have sinned, God our Father is there with open arms to welcome us back, and the Holy Spirit is always ready to help us go there. Please talk with a priest and get back to the sacraments. You've been away too long.

## Family Reflections

ANDREW & TERRI  
LYKE  
GUEST COLUMNISTS



### Controlled Separation for troubled marriages

What happens when a married couple find themselves so far at sea with their issues that they feel isolated? They usually separate, if for nothing but for a new perspective on their painful relationship. Though it is often considered a trial separation, it is most times a higher-octane fuel toward divorce. The people in the couple's life are often powerless standers-by who can only watch the marriage dissolve into ruin.

Author and therapist Lee Raffle offers an alternative to the slippery slope of trial separations called Controlled Separation (CS). This intervention allows the couple to move from dysfunction to a working relationship. Working with a coach the couple submits to a written contract that governs their interactions and their new living arrangements in such a way that they are able to diffuse some of the volatility of their marriage and begin down a road of progress.

The CS prescribes a limited timeframe for the separation — one to six months — to which the spouses agree. They also agree that neither will file for divorce during that timeframe. The contract stipulates who moves out and who stays. It provides for fair distribution of home furnishings and possessions as they establish separate dwelling places, and just terms for finances.

A primary provision of the contract deals with the children. Their needs come first. It is spelled out how often and by what means the children will connect with the parent who has moved out.

Explicit in the contract are the terms by which the separated spouses continue their relationship. Even to what degree there will be physical contact. Will they date or not? It's all in the contract.

How will they tell extended family and friends? Who will they tell? Their contract spells out such things. The CS is confidential and only those as stated in the contract are informed of the separation.

The coach can be a marital therapist, a pastoral minister or a trained layperson or lay-couple. With their coach the separated spouses may renegotiate their contract as adjustments become necessary.

Generally there are two outcomes:

— The end result of the CS can be a reconciliation. As they have entered into a functional, honest relationship, the spouses often discover that with discipline and new relationship skills they can better manage their issues.

— The end result of the CS can be a divorce that doesn't destroy the spouses and their children. They have submitted to just terms in the CS that shape the character of the terms of their divorce.

Controlled Separation is a viable method for saving families from the horrible destruction of divorce. Read more about CS in Lee Raffle's book, "Should I Stay or Go?" available in most bookstores.



## ORDINATION, from page 1

many friends in the diocese.

"These men have immediate knowledge and understanding of the culture from which they have emerged and will be important bridge-builders in the diocese," said Father John Allen, vocations director for the Diocese of Charlotte.

"Father Allen explained to me that the diocese had a great need for priests to work with the Hispanic people," said Rev. Mr. Dominguez, 31, who began his priestly studies in Mexico.

He performed pastoral work at St. Michael Church in Gastonia and Holy Family Church in Clemmons before returning to St. Charles Borromeo Seminary in Philadelphia, Pa., to complete his training; he has also studied in Rome.

While the number of Hispanic Catholics continues to grow in the Diocese of Charlotte, Dominguez and Gonzalez-Gaytan both look forward to serving all the people of the diocese.

"I think that it is the will of God for me to work here," Dominguez said.

Rev. Mr. Gonzalez-Gaytan, 37, completed his seminary studies in Mexico and then spent an additional year at St. Charles Borromeo. He has since been studying English in a specialized program and been involved in extensive pastoral work, serving at St. Charles Borromeo Church in Morganton, St. Leo the Great Church in Winston-Salem and Our Lady of the Americas Church in Biscoe.

He is currently completing his ordination retreat in Mexico.

Contact Acting Editor Kevin E. Murray by calling (704) 370-3334 or e-mail [kemurray@charlottediocese.org](mailto:kemurray@charlottediocese.org).

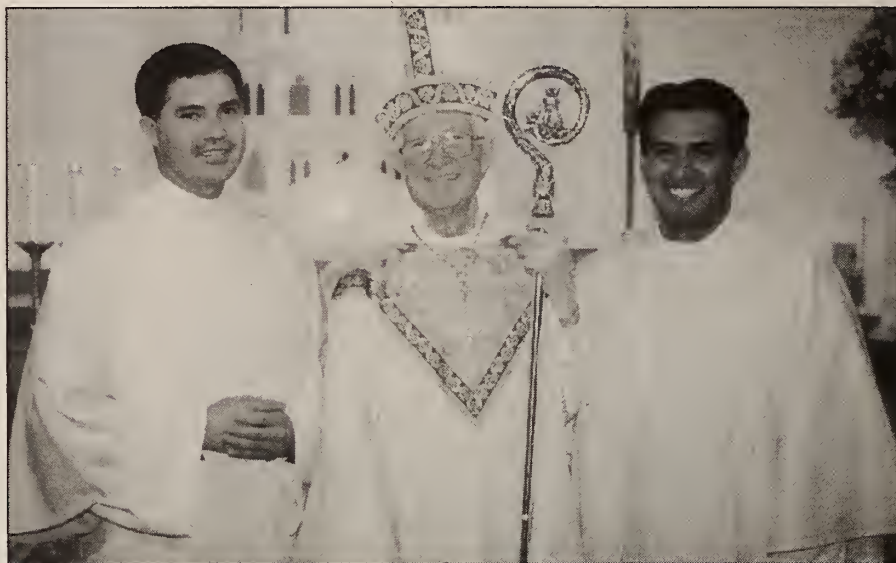
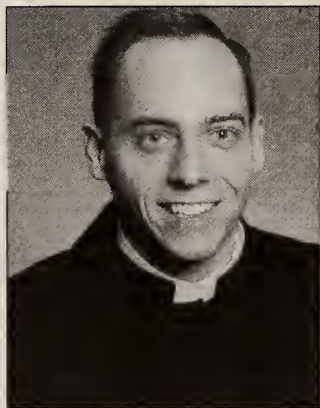


PHOTO BY ALESIA M. PRICE

Above: Rev. Messrs. Julio Dominguez and Enrique Gonzalez-Gaytan, left to right, stand with Bishop William G. Curlin after their transitional diaconate ordination at St. Patrick Cathedral July 20, 2002.



Rev. Mr. Matthew Buettner.

scription of duties visit: [www.st-annschurch.org](http://www.st-annschurch.org). Knowledge of Spanish a plus. Send resume, cover letter, salary requirements and references to: DML Search Committee, The Catholic Community of Saint Ann, 4057 US Hwy 70 Business, West Clayton, NC 27520. 919-934-2084.

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### Want to go?

The ordination Mass will begin at St. John Neumann Church in Charlotte at 11 a.m. June 7. The celebration is open to all people of the diocese.

### First Masses

**Rev. Mr. Buettner's first Mass will be at St. Patrick Cathedral in Charlotte at 12:30 p.m. June 8.**

**Rev. Mr. Dominguez's first Mass will be at St. Michael Church in Gastonia at 12 p.m. June 8.**

**Rev. Mr. Gonzalez-Gaytan's first Mass will be at St. Charles Borromeo Church in Morganton at 6 p.m. June 8.**

## DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRY

**St. Leo the Great Catholic Church located in beautiful Winston-Salem** is searching for a youth minister to continue an established Life Teen program centered on the Eucharist. We are seeking an enthusiastic, passionate, faith-filled individual to direct young people toward a meaningful, life-affirming journey with Christ.

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The Life Teen Mass is every Sunday at 5PM during the school year. Our awesome Life Teen band leads Praise and Worship songs, many original. We have a dedicated Core Team made up of singles and couples and a committed group of parent volunteers. Most important, however, are the 150 (and growing) young people who participate in our Spirit Night (Jr. Youth), Life Night (Sr. Youth), other activities and retreats. Also, recent additions to the Family Life Center feature a room dedicated to its youth, a Youth Minister's office, kitchenette and entertainment center.

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households. This school has grades pre-K 3 through 3rd grade, and will grow a grade a year through grade 8. The successful candidate must be a practicing Catholic, be licensed or eligible for licensure as a Principal in NC, and have solid teaching and school administrative experience. Candidate must also have a strong commitment to the principles of Vatican II, and have strong leadership skills. Send resume to: Principal Search Committee, St. Catherine of Siena Catholic School, 520 West Holding Avenue, Wake Forest, NC 27587.

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## Triathlete nun speaks on senior fitness

WINSTON-SALEM — Internationally-known Ironman triathlete Sister Madonna Buder will speak on "Aging, Exercise and Spirituality" at Salemtowne, a retirement community affiliated with the Moravian Church in America, May 27.

Sister Madonna, 72, has been the subject of international media attention for her work as an advocate for healthy seniors. She will appear as part of Salemtowne's sponsorship of National Senior Health and Fitness Day May 28, which will offer fitness activities for older adults.

Some call her Sister Mad Bud. Some simply refer to her as Sister M.

Sister Madonna, a member of the Sisters for Christian Community in Spokane, Wash., began running at age 48 and completed her first marathon at age 52. Since then, she has completed 37 marathons and 266 triathlons, including 27 Ironman distances. She has competed as a member of Team USA since 1989 and won nine World Champion Triathlons. She also participated in and won four World Championship Duathlons.

Sister Madonna was inducted into the Maryville University (St. Louis, Mo.) Athletic Hall of Fame in 1991. She received the 1999 Grand Master Female Triathlete of the Year award and the Ironman Spirit Award in 2001.

In August 2001, a 71-year-old Sister Madonna raced in the Subaru Ironman Canada triathlon in British Columbia. She completed the course in less than 15 hours, setting a record for her age group and beating her own record by 49 minutes.

Sister Madonna has devoted her competition in triathlons to God.

"Athletes draw strength from me: I can't understand it," she said in an interview several years ago. "They ask me 'When's Mass?' — like I'm supposed to know the Mass timetables of the local church in every city we visit all over the world."

"But I give them spiritual guidance and give help to those who need someone to talk to," she said.

Indeed, she is routinely called upon to give a blessing prior to each race and has been called the event's "spiritual consultant."

Sister Buder has worked as a guardian "ad litem" — an advocate for troubled youth in the courts, although her service now consists mainly of volunteer work. She admits



CNS PHOTO BY CAM HERVET

**Seventy-one-year-old Sister Madonna Buder races in the Subaru Ironman Canada triathlon Aug. 2 in Penticton, British Columbia. She completed the course in less than 15 hours, setting a record for her age group and beating her own record by 49 minutes.**

she wonders how much longer she'll have the stamina for triathlons.

"But I keep saying to God, 'You'll let me know when (to stop), won't you?'"

"Sister Madonna is an inspiration to seniors everywhere," said Kay McGee Phillips, president of Salemtowne. "She is proof that seniors can begin new and exciting phases of their lives as they get older."

Senior Health and Fitness Day will feature fitness testing, introductory Tai Chi and yoga classes and a one-mile walk. Sister Madonna will welcome participants with morning coffee, conduct a fitness walk and lead the seminar in exercise and spirituality.

### Want to go?

Sister Madonna's presentation on "Aging, Exercise and Spirituality" will be held in Salemtowne's Smith Saal at 7 p.m. May 27. Admission is free.

## Mercy Sister Theophane Field dies at age 90

*Sister of Mercy remembered for her artwork, devotion*

BELMONT — Mercy Sister Mary Theophane Field, died Sunday, May 18, 2003, at Marian Center at Sacred Heart Convent. She was received as a Sister of Mercy on July 18, 1932, and was in her 71st year as a Sister of Mercy.

A Mass of Christian burial was held May 21 at the Cardinal Gibbons Memorial Chapel with burial following at the Belmont Abbey Cemetery.

Sister Mary Theophane Field was born Jan. 1, 1913, in Dallas, Texas. Her secular name was Jacqueline Elizabeth Field; she took the name Sister Mary Theophane upon entering the religious order of the Sisters of Mercy on Aug. 14, 1931.

Sister Mary Theophane did not begin her life as a Catholic, but was baptized by Benedictine Father Charles Kastner on July 6, 1928, while she was a student at Sacred Heart Academy. Mary Agnes White, a classmate and devoted friend at Sacred Heart Academy, served as her Baptismal sponsor. Mary Agnes later entered the Sisters of Mercy Regional Community of Cincinnati where she took the name Sister Mary Emmanuel. The pair remained friends throughout their lives.

Sister Mary Theophane entered the Sisters of Mercy shortly after her graduation from Sacred Heart Academy and began her ministerial career in teaching in 1933 at St. Leo's Junior Military School in Belmont. She taught parochial school in Charlotte the following year and then spent twelve years teaching at St. Mary's in Wilmington.

In 1947, Sister Theophane returned to school to study art and in 1950 she graduated from Notre Dame University with a bachelor's degree in fine arts. By 1957, she had earned her master's degree in fine arts from that institution.

She traveled extensively through Europe and studied first hand the great art treasures of the world, and also studied at George Peabody University. Sister Mary Theophane was accepted and later spent her Sabbatical in New York's Greenwich Village with the Abington Square Painters who studied under Harriet Fitzgerald. Her artistic talents were widely known throughout the area and when the first bishop of the Diocese of Charlotte was to be installed, she was asked to design then-Bishop Michael J. Begley's coat of arms.

During her graduate student years, she began teaching art at Sacred Heart Academy and College and was appointed chairperson of the Art Department. She continued in that position until the college closed.

Sister Theophane was an active member of the National Art Education Association and the North Carolina Art Educators



Mercy Sister Mary Theophane Field

Association, the North Carolina Museum of Art and the Mint Museum of Art.

Her talents were both creative and motivational for her students, many of whom enjoyed visiting her following her retirement from teaching. One former student, Jeaniene Dibble, continues to express her devotion to her teacher by donating her artistic talents to benefit all the Sisters living at Marian Center by serving as an art instructor at that facility.

Sister Theophane's artwork, much of which decorates the walls of the Motherhouse and Marian Center, continues to provide her community with a beautiful legacy and a constant reminder of a tiny, smiling artist. However, she is particularly well known for the many and varied hand-painted House Blessings that she regularly donated to the annual Sisters of Mercy Bazaar. Her devotion to her God, her community and her art, is documented; her devotion to her cat, Monet, is not as widely known.

She said of herself, "One serves where one can and is happy to do so." Through her art and her life of Christian prayer and devotion, she most certainly served God, her church, her community, her family, her friends and her students — and she did so with a beautiful smile on her face.

Sister Mary Theophane is the daughter of the late Gwendolyn Ambach and Ernest Linwood Field. She is survived by her religious community; a nephew, W. Field Retterer of Indianapolis, Ind.; and three nieces, Karrie Cerone of Gaithersburg, Md., Debra G. Retterer of Scottsdale, Az., and Robin Roe of Columbus, Ohio.

*Memorials may be made to the Sisters of Mercy, Sacred Heart Convent, 100 Mercy Drive, Belmont, N.C. 28012-4805.*



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The LORD has established his throne in heaven, and his kingdom rules over all. Bless the LORD, all you his angels, you mighty in strength, who do his bidding.

Psalm 103: 19-20

# The Catholic NEWS & HERALD

## NOTICE TO OUR READERS

This issue begins the bi-weekly publishing schedule of *The Catholic News & Herald*. Our next issue will be June 13.

MAY 30, 2003

SERVING CATHOLICS IN WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA IN THE DIOCESE OF CHARLOTTE

VOLUME 12 No 35

## Looking forward, looking back

*Three Catholic principals leaving diocesan posts*

By KEVIN E. MURRAY

EDITOR

- AND -

KAREN A. EVANS

STAFF WRITER

CHARLOTTE — The end of the school year will bring closure for three diocesan Catholic school principals.

Augustinian Father James Cassidy of Charlotte Catholic High School, Ned Forney of Immaculate Heart of Mary School in High Point and Dr. Veronica Berreen of Asheville Catholic School are all leaving their posts when the school doors close for summer.

Father Cassidy's three-year assignment by the Order of St. Augustine to Charlotte Catholic ends in June. While he is uncertain to where he will be assigned, he looks toward the future with optimism.

"It's up to my superiors, but there are all kinds of options," he said, indicating that he may be re-assigned to a community within the Diocese of Charlotte.

He also looks back over the last three years with pride. While overseeing Charlotte Catholic's expansion, he coordinated the addition of a new, larger chapel on school grounds.

Mass, celebrated every day in the high school, is an important aspect of Catholic education, said Father Cassidy. One of his countless school memories was Sept. 11.

"The students were scared. We had the opportunity to gather and pray," said Father Cassidy. "Our opportunity to celebrate Mass was beyond what other, non-reli-



PHOTO BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

Augustinian Father James Cassidy, principal of Charlotte Catholic High School, regards a new chapel he requested be built on school grounds. Father Cassidy is one of three principals leaving this year.

gious schools were able to do."

Father Cassidy, former dean of St. Augustine Prep School in New Jersey, was also proud to be involved with the development of "future Catholic leaders" during his time at the school, which he felt is the true essence and purpose of Catholic schools.

When Ned Forney was assigned to Immaculate Heart of Mary School (IHM) two years ago, he hoped to bring a renewed enthusiasm to the school, coupled with more one-on-one contact with the students. In addition to his

See PRINCIPALS, page 11

## FIGHTING FOR LIFE

### Ban on military hospital abortions upheld; cardinal hails votes

By CATHOLIC NEWS

SERVICE

WASHINGTON (CNS)

— The chairman of the U.S. bishops' Committee on Pro-Life Activities hailed congressional votes to maintain a ban on elective abortions in military hospitals overseas.

Cardinal Anthony J. Bevilacqua of Philadelphia had written to members of the House and Senate a few days before the May 22 votes, urging support for continuing the policy.

The Senate voted 51-48 to defeat an amendment to the National Defense Authorization Act that would have required U.S. military hospitals overseas to provide abortions on demand.

The House defeated a similar amendment in a vote of 227-201 the same day.

In his letter to members of Congress, Cardinal Bevilacqua pointed out that when the policy against abortions in military hospi-

See BAN, page 3

## Mary, Queen of Heaven



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

### St. Ann student crowns Blessed Mother statue

St. Ann School fifth-grader Thu Han Nguyen crowns a statue of Mary with a wreath of flowers, assisted by classmate Jenna Beswick. Nguyen was chosen by lottery; she drew a slip of paper that read, "I have chosen you to crown me," the idea being that it is Mary who chooses the child who will crown her. Father Mark Lamprich, pastor of St. Vincent de Paul Church, celebrated the Mass in honor of the Blessed Mother May 23 for the students, parents and faculty of St. Ann School.

Mary is traditionally honored throughout the month of May. Coronation ceremonies have been a tradition in the Catholic Church since the 16th century.

Workshop to help Catholics and Cherokees learn from each other

...PAGE 4

Holy Angels honors volunteers

...PAGE 5

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...PAGE 5

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## Cow kiss nets \$800 for school math materials



CNS PHOTO BY KAREN CALLAWAY, NORTHWEST INDIANA CATHOLIC

St. Joseph Sister Rita Marie Malachinski plants a kiss on the head of "Katie" inside a mobile classroom outside St. Bridget School in Hobart, Ind., May 22. A local dairy association brought in the classroom for students to learn about agriculture. Teachers challenged the principal to kiss the cow in a fund-raising effort that brought in \$800 for math materials.

### Watchdog group's report sees less sexual content in some TV shows

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The makers of media entertainment generally have only the most positive things to say about their products. And the organized consumers of media entertainment tend to badmouth what they see. There's little middle ground among the two camps, and one shouldn't expect there to be much more anytime soon. But whenever there is movement toward that ground — especially among First Amendment-conscious members of Congress — it should be noted. Brent Bozell, a Catholic who heads up the Parents Television Council, issued a report May 21 which indicated that the commercial broadcast television networks have cut back on the use of sex in prime time. In the 8-11 p.m. Eastern/Pacific time period generally recognized as prime time, the amount of sexual content in the first hour during the November 2002 ratings sweeps was down 9 percent from 1998 November sweeps levels, and down 12 percent in the second hour. In the final hour, when fewer young people are watching, ABC's use of sexual content was down, while NBC and CBS use of it was up.

### Commitment needed for lasting, quality relationships, bishop says

COLUMBUS, Ohio (CNS) — Without commitment, there can be no lasting relationships, Columbus Bishop James A. Griffin told an audience of 400 gathered at a diocesan breakfast. Without commitment, "barriers are insurmountable," he said. "Disagreements are destructive.

Shortcomings are terminal. Commitment allows individuals' lack to be filled up with gifts of others." Today relationships are hurt by society's obsession with consumption and the ease with which it disposes of goods, the bishop said. "Words like commitment, compassion and empathy have no place in the world of objects," he added. Bishop Griffin and speaker Andy Geiger, Ohio State University's athletic director, addressed the breakfast's theme of "The Importance of Commitment." The 11th annual event was held in early May in support of the diocese's Catholic Social Services.

### Sin of the shin: Vatican rejects men in shorts at St. Peter's doors

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The springtime crowds pushed forward into St. Peter's Basilica, but coming back the other way was a steady trickle of disappointed tourists — the ones barred at the door for improper apparel. These were not women rejected for short skirts, sheer blouses, bare midriffs or studded navels. They were not the shirtless or shoeless youths who sometimes turn Roman fountains into private footbaths. These were men who made the mistake of revealing a seemingly mundane part of their anatomy: the bottom portion of the leg, a few inches above the ankle. Call it "sin of shin" or the "lower leg law." The Vatican does not really have a name for it; it just knows it does not want men in shorts. "I'm a little bit astonished," said Ingo Virgens, a German visitor. He came to see St. Peter's for the first time, but was turned away because his below-the-knee pants didn't quite reach his shoes.

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## Diocesan planner

### Upcoming Parish Events June

**5 WINSTON-SALEM** — The Healing Companions is a grief support group for the bereaved which meets the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month in conference room B at St. Leo the Great Church, 335 Springdale Ave. For further details, call Joanne Parcel at (336) 924-9478.

**5 HICKORY** — St. Aloysius Church, 921 Second St. NE, will hold a Charismatic Mass today in Sebastian Chapel at 7 p.m. A Charismatic Mass will be held the first Thursday every of each month. For further information, contact Joan Moran (828) 327-0487.

**5 GUILFORD COUNTY** — Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, Guilford County, Division 1, an

Irish-Catholic social, cultural and charitable inter-parish group, will meet tonight at 7:30 p.m. St. Pius X Church, Kloster Center, at N. Elm St. and Cornwallis Dr. in Greensboro. RSVP to Elaine McHale, President, (336) 292-1118 to attend meeting. All Catholic women of Irish birth or descent are welcome.

**6 CHARLOTTE** — St. Peter Church, 507 S. Tryon St., will offer Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on the first Friday of every month following the 12:10 p.m. Mass and Benediction at 1:30 p.m.

**7 CHARLOTTE** — St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy., will celebrate fathers tonight at the Christian Coffeehouse at 7:30 p.m. Kathy & David with "Redeemed," an 11-member Christian contemporary band, will provide the music. If you would like to reserve a table for a group of six or more for the coffeehouse, call Kathy Bartlett at (704) 614-9100.

**7 SYLVA** — St. Mary Church offers Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament the first Saturday of every month following the 9 a.m. Mass until 3 p.m. For information, call (828) 586-9496.

**7 CHARLOTTE** — Bishop William G. Curlin, bishop emeritus, will celebrate the ordination Mass of transitional deacons Matthew Buettner, Julio Dominguez and Enrique Gonzalez-Gaytan today at 11 a.m. at St. John Neumann Church, 8451 Idlewild Rd. The celebration is open to all people of the diocese.

**8 BISCOE** — Our Lady of the Americas Church will hold their Pentecostal Sunday Mass at 11 a.m. today on the future site of their new church, located on Farmers' Market Road in Candor. A family picnic will follow.

**8 CHARLOTTE** — Lance Burnette and Monty Bennett will present "An Afternoon of Music" today at 3:30 p.m. at St. John Neumann Church, 8451 Idlewild Rd. The performance is sponsored by the Women's Guild. The con-



## BAN, from page 1

tals was lifted during the Clinton administration, the military was unable to even find medical personnel in its ranks who were willing to perform abortions.

"This may be because men and women in the armed services are trained in the principles of just war," his letter said. "They know that under no circumstances may they ever direct their attacks against the lives of noncombatants, especially against the lives of defenseless children."

The ban includes exceptions permitting abortions in cases where the mother's life is in danger or the pregnancy was the result of rape or incest.

## Catholic war veterans honored for service

ARDEN — Members of Catholic War Veterans (CWV) were honored for volunteer service at the Asheville's VA Medical Center during a volunteer awards ceremony May 3.

Among the award recipients was Herbert Reith, commander of CWV Post 1914, which meets at St. Barnabas Church in Arden. Reith was recognized for a total of 17,500 volunteer hours at the medical center since becoming a volunteer in 1981; his hours were the highest of any volunteer at the facility.

Reith also serves with the Medical Center Chaplain Service as a chaplain associate and a lay Catholic hospital eucharistic minister, which duties include visiting all Catholic in-patients and bringing the Eucharist to them at their bedsides when appropriate.

In 2001, Reith completed 400 hours of Clinical Pastoral Education training, required by the joint commission that accredits all hospitals in the United States for any person involved with hospital ministry.

Others recognized at the ceremony were CWV volunteer Oswald Spinks, with 6,700 volunteer hours; James Mulligan and Genevieve Amaral, each with 2,000 hours; John Wormesly, with 1,500 hours; Earl Rubley, with 1,000 hours; Eugene Fort, with 500 hours; and James Potts, with 100 hours.

Many other CWV members and friends also give time as "occasional volunteers," helping at other of the Post's events.

## St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Award



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

Pictured, left to right: Father Carmen Malacari, Antoinette Usher and Barbara Bondra.

## Girl Scout leader honored

CHARLOTTE — Antoinette Usher, Girl Scout coordinator for St. Matthew Church, was awarded the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Award by Father Carmen Malacari, parochial vicar for St. Matthew Church, and Girl Scout volunteer Barbara Bondra during the annual Court of Award Recognition Ceremony May 15.

Usher has volunteered with the Girl Scouts of St. Matthew Church for 17 years, serving as troop leader, scout recruitment area coordinator and par-

ish and district liaison. In addition to her work with the Girl Scouts, Usher is a eucharistic minister and a member of the St. Matthew pastoral council and building committee.

The St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Award was created in 1979 by the Department of Education of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, to recognize individuals who have made significant contributions in serving the spiritual needs of Catholic members of national organizations serving girls.

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cert will include transcriptions, hymn arrangements and solo works for organ and piano. A reception will follow in the Gathering Area. For more information, call (704) 382-8623.

**8 CHARLOTTE** — Come celebrate Pentecost in a special way. A Charismatic Mass will be held today at St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy., at 3 p.m. Prayer teams will be available after Mass. A potluck supper will follow in the Family Room after Mass. For information, contact Susan Lew (704) 849-0214.

**9 FRANKLIN** — The Women's Guild of St. Francis of Assisi Church, 299 Maple St., will be having their monthly meeting tonight at 7 p.m. in the Family Life Center. The meetings feature guest speakers and special events periodically. For more information, call Claire Barnable at (828) 369-1565.

**11 CHARLOTTE** — The 50+ Club of St. John Neumann Church, 8451 Idlewild Rd., will be conducting a

meeting this morning at 11 a.m. including the installation of officers and lunch in the parish center. Donations are being accepted during the meeting. For more information, call Lucille Kroboth at (704) 537-2189.

**11 SYLVA** — St. Mary Church will be offering a four-part series on praying the "Prayer of the Church," as it is prayed by priests and religious as well as a growing number of lay people around the world. The monthly sessions are scheduled for Wednesday evenings following the 5:30 p.m. Mass, 6-7 p.m. Session III will be "Seasons, Solemnities and Feasts" which will cover the special prayers and readings which replace the usual ones for seasons and feasts of the Lord and will introduce the use of the annual guide. As materials must be prepared, please call the office (828) 586-9496 to pre-register.

**14 CHARLOTTE** — The Vietnamese Cursillo group will have a leader school meeting tonight at 7 p.m. at

Our Lady of the Assumption Church, 4207 Shamrock Dr. For details, call Do Ky at (704) 532-9094.

**15 CHARLOTTE** — St. Thomas Aquinas Church, 1400 Suther Rd., will be hosting an Ultreya today at 1:30 p.m. There will be a family potluck and childcare will be available. For more information, call Dan Hines at (704) 544-6665 or visit [www.charlottecursillo.org](http://www.charlottecursillo.org). To receive Cursillo information via e-mail contact [bmayer@alltell.net](mailto:bmayer@alltell.net).

**16 CHARLOTTE** — Christians in Career Transition is a ministry of St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy., devoted to helping people in career crises. The meetings will take place on the first and third Mondays of every month 7-9 p.m. in the conference room. For more information, call Rev. Mr. Jim Hamrlik at (704) 576-0456.

**16 ASHEVILLE** — The St. Martin De Porres Pro-Chapter of the Dominican Laity will be meeting tonight and

every third Monday at 7 p.m. in St. Justin's Center at the Basilica of St. Lawrence, 97 Haywood St. Inquirers are welcome. For more information, contact Beverly Reid, OPL, at (828) 253-6676.

**16 CHARLOTTE** — The Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians Division 1 Mecklenburg County-St. Brigid, an Irish-Catholic social and charitable inter-parish group, will meet tonight at 7:30 p.m. at St. Gabriel Church, 3016 Providence Rd. Anyone interested in their Irish-Catholic roots, call Jeanmarie Schuler at (704) 554-0720 for further information.

**17 GASTONIA** — An interfaith prayer vigil for peace will be held tonight 7-8 p.m. at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 805 S. York St. For details, please call Holy Trinity at (704) 864-0378, or Dennis Teall-Fleming, director of faith formation at Queen of Apostles Catholic Church, at (704) 825-9600, ext. 26, or [teallfleming@yahoo.com](mailto:teallfleming@yahoo.com).



## Workshop to help Catholics and Cherokees learn from each other

MURPHY — The Smoky Mountain Vicariate will host "Catholics and Cherokees: Learning from Each Other," a free workshop that will link Catholic social teachings to issues of the Cherokee people.

While many new residents in western North Carolina know the Cherokee people have historic roots in the area, many do not know the contributions to the culture and the travails they have faced, according to Mary Herr, Smoky Mountain Vicariate multicultural worker.

The events of the past still have implications for the life of present-day Cherokee people, said Herr. The workshop will explore Cherokee history and current issues of major concern facing them, and the importance of advocacy and dialogue in contemporary society.

Presenters include Father George Kloster, pastor at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church in Hayesville and its mission church St. William in Murphy. He will link Catholic social teachings with Cherokee issues.

Joyce Dugan, former principal chief of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians and currently director of External Relations and Career Development for Harrah's Cherokee Casino. Dugan will discuss tribal government and sovereignty, and the political, economic and social impact of high

stakes gaming in Cherokee.

Patty Grant, social worker advocate for the Tribal Diabetes Program and member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, will present information on historical trauma and intergenerational grief and its impact on the lives of Cherokee people today, and Cherokee culture and spirituality.

Russ Townsend, archeologist with EBCI Cultural Resources Department and a member of the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma, will discuss Cherokee history including the Trail of Tears and cultural values.

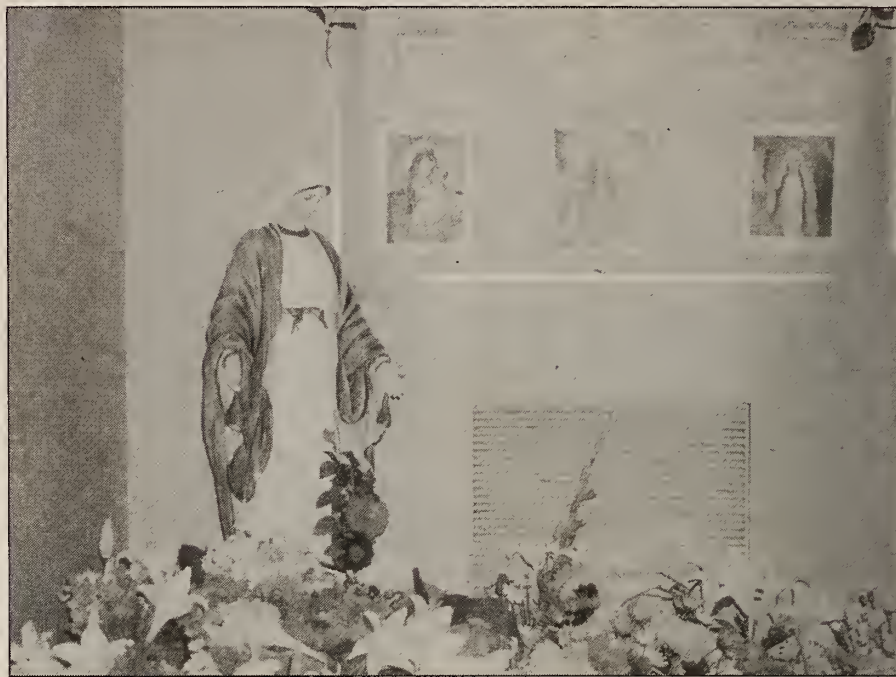
The free workshop is funded by a grant from Operation Rice Bowl and will be repeated Oct. 18 in Bryson City.

### Want to go?

"Catholics and Cherokees: Learning from Each Other" will be held from 6-9 p.m. at the Glenmary House at St. William Church, 731 Andrews Rd., in Murphy. The workshop is free and open to the public.

For more information or to register, call Mary Herr at (828) 497-9498 or e-mail [maryherr@dnet.net](mailto:maryherr@dnet.net). Or call St. William Church at (828) 837-2000.

## Blessed Mother visits school



COURTESY PHOTO

The St. Gabriel Church-School Liaison committee sponsored the visit of the pilgrim image of the Blessed Mother to the school during the week of April 28-May 3. The statue has been visiting St. Gabriel families as part of a pilgrimage program within the St. Gabriel parish.

The statue was placed on an altar at the school's main entrance where students prayed at different times during that week. Every student brought in a flower to adorn the altar, which was also

decorated with the "Hail Mary" prayer in different languages representative of the students' backgrounds.

The St. Gabriel Church-School Liaison (CSL) Committee is entrusted with enriching the relationship between the church and school by enhancing and nurturing the current association, by helping the students and the church parishioners become more involved with one another and sharing in the pride and kinship of the Catholic Church community.

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## Holy Angels honors volunteers

BELMONT — Holy Angels presented the 2003 Volunteer Awards, during the 13th Annual Volunteer Appreciation and Awards Luncheon April 3. The luncheon, held in Holy Angels' Rose Room, was part of the Volunteers Appreciation Week celebration.

Holy Angels was founded in 1956 by the Sisters of Mercy. The private, nonprofit corporation provides residential services and innovative programs for children and adults with varying degrees of mental retardation and physical disabilities, some of whom are medically fragile.

Following is a list of the 2003 Volunteer Award Winners:

### Volunteer of the Year — Kevin Moody

A resident of Belmont, Moody, 14, has been helping out at Holy Angels since he was old enough to hold a hammer — coming with his parents Regina (Holy Angels' CEO) and David Moody. When he's not busy being a student at Gaston Day School, he volunteers at Cherubs Café & Candy Bouquets. Moody was recently named the 2003 Gaston County Volunteer Youth of the Year.

### Volunteer Group of the Year — Knights of Columbus, St. Thomas Aquinas parish, Charlotte

This group initiated the Annual Easter Egg Hunt for Holy Angels' residents. During this visit they also prepare lunch for the residents and staff. Following lunch, the Knights, wearing "bunny

ears" hide the stuffed Easter eggs throughout the campus and then assist the residents in finding the eggs.

### Ed Sabatini Advocacy Award — Bob Healey

Named in honor of the late Ed Sabatini, this award recognizes an individual or group who serves as an advocate of Holy Angels. Healey, a long time resident of Charlotte, has over 30 years of commitment and support that goes back to his Belmont Abbey College days. He serves as an ambassador among his friends, colleagues and associates and across the regional corporate community. Healey currently serves as co-chair of Holy Angels' Corporate Appeal Committee.

### Dennis McClain Volunteer of the Year — Jimmy Armstrong

Armstrong, of Cramerton, has been a volunteer with Holy Angels Fox Run ICF/MR (Intermediate Care Facilities for the Mentally Retarded) group homes for over a year.

### Touched By An Angel — Mary Ellen Linahan, Margo Colassanti

Named in memory of volunteer, Kevin Patrick Crosby, this recognition is given to volunteers who offer an angelic touch to their volunteer work.

This year the Touched By An Angel was awarded to two volunteers. Linahan, a resident in one of Holy Angels' community group homes, volunteers at Cherubs Café. Colassanti, of Charlotte, has been a volunteer for one year in one of Holy Angels' classrooms.

## Concerts being held to benefit missionary works

By KEVIN E. MURRAY  
EDITOR

CHARLOTTE — Father Ho Lung, founder of Missionaries of the Poor, will be holding two concerts in Charlotte to benefit the destitute in Jamaica.

Father Lung, originally a Buddhist, was born and raised on the small Caribbean island. He became a Jesuit priest and, while teaching at Boston College, answered a call to return to Jamaica to serve the poor.

In 1981 he founded Missionaries of the Poor, an order of Catholic brothers and priests that serves the poor and homeless in the slums of Jamaica. The order also cares for abandoned children, lepers, people with AIDS and others in India, the Philippines, Haiti and Uganda.

In 1997, the order was elevated to religious institute status by Pope John Paul II; it is the first (and so far the only) male religious community founded in the English-speaking Caribbean to attain this status. The Missionaries' vow of providing shelter and free service has earned them many religious and humanitarian awards.

In the summer of 2002, Father Lung received the Poverello Award, the highest honor given by Franciscan University of Steubenville to individuals who embody the ideals of St. Francis of Assisi.

The Missionaries of the Poor relies solely on private donations and fundraising, and the primary source of the order's operating revenue comes from Father Lung's music. A self-taught musician, Father Lung is now an accomplished composer, having

earned six JAMI Awards, the Jamaican music industry's highest honor. His songs have been sung at papal Masses and in Catholic liturgies worldwide.

A non-denominational group of lay Christians — highly talented musicians, singers and dancers — have come together under Father Lung's direction to spread this music and raise support for the Missionaries' works. In addition to recording 14 albums, the group has performed concerts and operas for more than 20 years in Jamaica as well as in the United States, Canada, Caribbean and the United Kingdom.

The musical group will perform at the two Spirit Concerts to be held at St. Thomas Aquinas and St. Matthew churches in late June. All are invited to enjoy the sounds of the Caribbean and the spirit that transcends all cultural and ethnic boundaries.

Contact Editor Kevin E. Murray by calling (704) 370-3334 or e-mail [kemurray@charlottediocese.org](mailto:kemurray@charlottediocese.org).

### Want to go?

Father Ho Lung and friends will perform 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, June 28 at St. Thomas Aquinas Church, 1400 Suther Rd., Charlotte; and 2 p.m. on Sunday, June 29 at St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy., Charlotte.

Tickets are \$10 for students, \$15 for adults; group discounts are available. Call (704) 845-4534 for tickets and more information.

## Fr. Ho Lung and Friends bring Caribbean Concerts to lift your Spirit

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— and —

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Fr. Ho Lung, founder of the Missionaries of the Poor, serves the poorest of the poor, the homeless and the destitute in the slums of Jamaica. His order also cares for abandoned children, lepers, people with AIDS and others in India, the Philippines, Haiti, and Uganda.

A primary source of operating revenue is the powerful music he writes, some of which has been sung at Papal Masses and in Catholic liturgies worldwide. Come enjoy the sound of the Caribbean and the spirit which transcends all cultural and ethnic boundaries!

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## Book Review

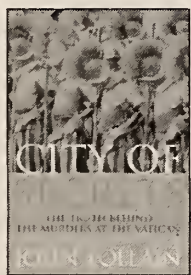
# Two books on Vatican intrigue

REVIEWED BY JOHN H. CARROLL  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

Over the years diplomats and intelligence officers have speculated about the operations and capabilities of Vatican intelligence services. Military historians also have expressed admiration for the security standards and the discipline of the elite Swiss Guards, who protect the pope. The two books under review here provide penetrating insights into these arcane papal organizations.

David Alvarez, in "Spies in the Vatican: Espionage and Intrigue From Napoleon to the Holocaust," examines the history of the Vatican and its involvement in international affairs from the late-18th to the mid-20th centuries, covering the pontificates of 10 popes.

The popes as rulers of the independent Papal States in central Italy received all the pomp and circumstance due a chief of state, Alvarez writes. Their security services



"City of Secrets: The Truth Behind the Murders at the Vatican," by John Follain. William Morrow (New York, 2003). 309 pp., \$25.95.

"Spies in the Vatican: Espionage and Intrigue From Napoleon to the Holocaust," by David Alvarez. University Press of Kansas (Lawrence, Kan., 2002). 332 pp., \$34.95.

thwarted attempts by the Piedmontese House of Savoy to overthrow the papacy and annex it to the Kingdom of Italy. But at last in 1870 the forces of the Kingdom of Italy under King Victor Emanuele II occupied Rome and the Papal States. Pope Pius IX became a virtual prisoner in the Vatican.

Alvarez has penetrating insights into the Machiavellian intrigues and relations between the Holy See and the Italian government. Finally in 1929 the Vatican and the Italian regime of the fascist dictator, Benito Mussolini, signed the Lateran Agreement to settle the "Roman Question" and restore the international status of the Holy See.

Perhaps the most fascinating chapters in this study deal with intelligence operations in the Vatican during the two World Wars. In the First World War, Pope Benedict XV worked for a peaceful settlement but his efforts were stymied by the activities of the belligerents. Papal nuncios carried out intensive diplomatic efforts in the European capitals but most of the intrigues were centered in the Vatican as the hostile powers tried to influence the papacy and gain its moral support.

During World War II, the situation became even more involved. Fascist Italy was an ally of Nazi Germany, but Vatican City was a sovereign state. In the early part of the war Allied diplomats and intelligence officers were able to operate there. And later, when the Allies occupied Rome, Axis diplomats and intelligence personnel were able to be based at the Vatican.

Alvarez contends that papal communications were so disrupted that the Vatican was not too well informed about developments, especially in Eastern Europe. This state of affairs may account for the pope's lack of comment on the Holocaust.

Alvarez, a professor at St. Mary's College in California and the author of other works and articles on the history of espionage, has given readers a well-researched study and good read in "Spies in the Vatican."

"City of Secrets: The Truth Behind the Murders at the Vatican" is another matter. On the evening of May 4, 1998, the closely knit community in the Vatican was horrified to learn that the bodies of Col. Alois Estermann, the commander of the Swiss Guards, his wife and Lance Cpl. Cedric Tornay were found dead in the Swiss Guard barracks. Shortly afterward, Vatican spokesman Joaquin Navarro-Valls announced that Tornay had murdered the couple and then killed himself in a "fit of madness."

John Follain, a Rome-based investigative reporter, was not happy with the speedy verdict and decided to undertake his own investigation of the murder. The author traveled to Paris, Berlin and the Swiss Alps and interviewed Tornay family members and numerous other personalities involved with the case. At times the book reads like a combined intrigue thriller and travelogue.

The author drags in the usual suspects: papal officials, the East German Stasi, homosexual rings and Opus Dei members, who apparently have replaced the Jesuits as the Vatican's "heavies." Follain contends that disillusion and distress may have been the motivation for Tornay's actions. However, many readers may reach the conclusion that the murders and the suicide were tragedies that resulted from undetermined causes.

*Carroll is a retired government official who resides in Silver Spring, Md.*

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## Word to Life

Sunday Scripture Readings  
June 1, 2003

June 1, The Ascension of  
the Lord

*These are the Ascension readings for dioceses where the feast is celebrated Sunday, June 1, and where celebrated Thursday, May 29.*

### Cycle B Readings:

- 1) Acts 1:1-11  
Psalm 47:2-3, 6-9
- 2) Ephesians 1:17-23
- 3) Gospel: Mark 16:15-20

BY JEFF HENSLEY  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

We once had next-door neighbors who had been Baptist missionaries in Ghana. Humble, decent, quiet, good folks. The son of two of my best friends in Norman, Okla., is currently doing a year of mission work with one of the Catholic NET teams (National Evangelization Teams) crisscrossing the country calling Catholic (and hopefully other) youth to a deeper walk with Jesus; next year two college guys from my parish will join NET for a year.

Nuns I have worked with and known have done mission work in Africa with their order, the Sisters of St. Mary of Namur. One of them walks around with malaria in her body (you never get rid of it completely), working

harder than I do, at an age beyond 70, organizing a program that brings Bible study and Christian companionship to female federal prisoners.

The woman in Virginia who will illustrate this piece of writing has done brief stints in rural Mexico and Haiti doing mission work. On one of the trips, my godson was along using his EMT skills to assist a physician doing surgeries in Haiti.

I could go on and on with examples.

In this week's Scriptures, Jesus gives an instruction to his disciples: "Go into the world and proclaim the good news to all creation." That word of instruction is still being lived out in powerful ways in our day. And today, because the word of salvation in Jesus has so often been proclaimed in word alone, the proclamation is accompanied by acts of charity, acts of physical living out of the love that Jesus has for all people.

The word is still active, still doing good, still being incarnated, bringing people the good things of physical healing, personal wholeness, and the spiritual salvation that come through new life in Jesus. Isn't that amazing?

### Question:

Has God called you to bring his love to others in some specific place or places beyond your own family, friends and casual contacts?

## Weekly Scripture

### Scripture for the week of June 1 - June 7

Sunday (Seventh Sunday of Easter), Acts 1:15-17, 20-26, 1 John 4:11-16, John 17:11-19; Monday (Sts. Marcellinus and Peter), Acts 19:1-8, John 16:29-33; Tuesday (St. Charles Lwanga and Companions), Acts 20:17-27, John 17:1-11; Wednesday, Acts 20:28-38, John 17:11-19; Thursday (St. Boniface), Acts 22:30; 23:6-11, John 17:20-26; Friday (St. Norbert), Acts 25:13-21, John 21:15-19; Saturday, Acts 28:16-20, 30-31, John 21:20-25

### Scripture for the week of June 8 - June 14

Sunday (Pentecost Sunday), Acts 2:1-11, 1 Corinthians 12:3-7, 12-13, John 15:26-27; 16:12-15; Monday, 2 Corinthians 1:1-7, Matthew 5:1-12; Tuesday, 2 Corinthians 1:18-22, Matthew 5:13-16; Wednesday (St. Barnabas), Acts 11:21-26; 13:1-3, Matthew 10:7-13; Thursday, 2 Corinthians 3:15-4:1, 3-6, Matthew 5:20-26; Friday (St. Anthony of Padua), 2 Corinthians 4:7-15, Matthew 5:27-32; Saturday, 2 Corinthians 5:14-21, Matthew 5:33-37

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# 'Bruce Almighty' shows quest for God, says director

By MARK PATTISON  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

HOLLYWOOD — The director of the new film comedy "Bruce Almighty" says the movie shows the title character's quest for God.

Tom Shadyac, who previously directed the film's star, Jim Carrey, in "Liar Liar" and "Ace Ventura: Pet Detective," noted that Bruce's self-indulgent moments — which are featured in commercials and previews for the film — are truly just points on a longer journey, one that audiences don't see until they get their tickets.

"We don't start with perfect people in our movies," Shadyac said. "They have to go on a journey."

In "Bruce Almighty," Carrey plays Bruce Nolan, a TV news reporter in Buffalo, N.Y., who rails against God when things don't go his way, despite the protestations of his girlfriend (Jennifer Aniston), who believes in the power of prayer. Eventually, God (Morgan Freeman) summons Bruce, gives him Godly powers, and challenges Bruce to do a better job.

That's where the self-indulgent moments come in: Bruce parting a bowl of soup and rush-hour traffic as if they were the Red Sea; Bruce fashioning a gust of wind to raise a woman's skirt for a Marilyn Monroe "Seven Year Itch" moment; Bruce wreaking his revenge on bullies and the newsman who was promoted ahead of him.

"There's completely plenty of moments for a secular audience to have a good time," Shadyac told religion journalists in an interview before the May 23 opening of the film.

The U.S. bishops' Office for Film & Broadcasting classified "Bruce Almighty" A-III — adults — due to an instance of rough language, minimal profanities, some crass humor and an implied sexual encounter. David DiCerto, a staff critic for the office, said the movie "addresses faith issues with an unfeigned sincerity and seriousness. That's rare in an industry which, at best, treats expressions of faith as window dressing. Such topics as prayer, usually anathema, play a pivotal role in the narrative."

Viewers who are not there just for Carrey's comic contortions will see the importance of free will in the relationships among humans and between humans and God. They'll also get to see that, while some people may deign to play God with their actions, it's a whole different matter to actually be God, as Bruce learns.

In the interview Shadyac repeated dialogue between Bruce and God to illustrate the point:

Bruce: "How can you make anybody love you if you can't affect free will?"

God: "Welcome to my world, son."

"Bruce raged at God and a few weeks later he got a chance to see how

silly that was, how self-indulgent that was, how self-involved that was, how unevolved that was. But had he not raged, had he not been honest, who knows if that step would have been taken," Shadyac said. "God loved him all along. The soil had to soften. The soil had to become more porous before the seed could take root."

"Bruce Almighty," he said, "is very personal to me in a lot of ways. I'm the guy on the ground, struggling, 'God, why don't you answer this prayer?' I couldn't get work 10 years ago." Shadyac thought the nadir of his career was not getting to direct an episode of the "She's the Sheriff" TV sitcom.

"I was screamin' at the man. I was down on all fours, screaming, 'Why? Why? Why? Why?'" Shadyac said.

"I was growing up. I was learning to be stronger. I was learning to die to my own way and to embrace the divine way. I think God goes through an awful lot of trouble with most of us, because we are petulant, we are stubborn, we need a lot of help."

Making the movie, Shadyac said, "was a challenge for us all. We're putting words in God's mouth. We called ministers, priests, theologians: 'Help! We're putting words in God's mouth. What would you say?'"

Actually, he said, Father Ken Deasy, the priest at the Catholic church he attends, St. Agatha in Los Angeles, "helped to write some of the best words, some of the more profound words."

Shadyac added, "We didn't want to be dogmatic in this movie, folks. Jesus purposely did not want to be dogmatic. Jesus was a storyteller. Jesus didn't get into a lot of dogma when he told the story of the prodigal son. ... He's a very inclusive soul, I believe, and we are telling a kind of parable here. We did not want to divide with dogma. We wanted to be inclusive in our storytelling."

Shadyac said Christians shouldn't ride Hollywood types so hard.

"The entertainment industry can be vilified. But we're just like everyone else. We're doing the best we can. We're imperfect," he said. "How does God see that Hollywood person right now who may not be walking the cleanest walk? God sees that person as beautiful and full of potential and full of light. And what Christian, who of us, knows what God is doing in that person's life?"

He said he hasn't found any backlash against him in Hollywood because of his faith. "I'll tell you why," he said. "Because I'm makin' 'em money."



## These 'In-Laws' worth avoiding



CNS PHOTO FROM WARNER BROS.

Albert Brooks and Michael Douglas star in "The In-Laws," a leaden comedy about a mild-mannered podiatrist (Brooks) who, while trying to plan his daughter's wedding, is shanghaied into an international arms deal by the groom's father (Douglas), who happens to work for the CIA. Director Andrew Fleming's stale remake of the 1979 laughter is sabotaged by forced humor, a scatterbrained plot and mismatched casting. Some profanities, crass humor with occasional homosexual innuendoes and brief violence. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-III — adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13 — parents are strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.

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## The Pope Speaks

POPE JOHN PAUL II

### Pope urges Catholics to pray rosary to end violence in Holy Land

By JOHN THAVIS  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

*Editor's Note: Due to an early publishing schedule this week, we are unable to bring you the pope's weekly general audience address.*

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — In the face of "vicious violence" between Israelis and Palestinians, Pope John Paul II urged Catholics around the world to keep praying the rosary for peace in the Holy Land.

The pope's comments May 25 came as the Israeli Cabinet met to approve the U.S.-backed "road map" peace plan that would lead to Palestinian statehood in several years.

The Vatican newspaper, L'Osservatore Romano, said the development represented a glimmer of hope in the long impasse that has left hundreds of dead on both sides.

The pope offered his prayer for peace at a weekly Sunday blessing at the Vatican, following a week of Palestinian suicide bombings and Israeli armed incursions.

"Despite the vicious violence that continues to rage and which offends God and man, I pray to the Lord that there be an intensification in the search for fair, negotiated solutions that can assure serenity and peace for all peoples," he said.

The pope noted that he had proclaimed a year of the rosary last fall with two special intentions: peace in the world, with particular reference to the Holy Land, and the health of the family, which he said was seriously threatened in its fundamental values.

He asked Catholics to rediscover the rosary during May, a month the church traditionally dedicates to Mary.

### Clear view of a mob mentality

You can't help but wonder, you can't help but stare, and you can't help but be totally and utterly shocked.

It's that video, you know. That video of the girls' powder-puff football game that took a decidedly wrong turn somewhere.

It's apparently some sort of initiation ritual for rising senior girls at this high school, but one that's not approved by the school, so it's held on a weekend, off school property and is supposed to be kept a secret from school authorities.

In this football game, senior girls play junior girls and then apparently beat the living daylight out of the junior girls, and that's what we saw in the video: girls being beaten by other girls, some to the point of broken bones and stitches, and having garbage and worse rubbed on them; surrounded — as we also saw on the video — by a cheering throng.

I have no doubt that it made you as sick as it made me. You probably asked a lot of the same questions as I did.

What's the point? What is the purpose of this? Initiation rites and hazing are a part of many groups. Some schools have a mild initiation of freshmen by seniors. College fraternities and sororities incorporate rituals and tests into their initiations. Sports teams do it too.

I would like you to know that most of that is pretty dumb and gives far more importance to membership in that fraternity or that team than there really is. Initiation and hazing rituals make those in charge feel powerful and superior, and make the initiated feel special (in a weird way) by being victims.

Is being victimized what you need to feel special? Didn't think so. I'm not saying that you shouldn't be a part of these kinds of groups. I'm just saying don't invest too much importance in them, and if things get out of hand or just get really stupid, feel free to check out and maintain your integrity and individuality. That would be a good thing.

This videotape shows us something else too. It

## Coming of Age

AMY WELBORN  
CNS COLUMNIST



shows us the real tragedy of people getting caught up in a mob mentality.

The most obvious culprits are the girls doing the beatings, and that videotape should be a warning for all of us never to buy into the stereotype of girls as always gentle, kind beings. Girls can be just as cruel and mean as boys, and the people that know this best are, of course, other girls.

But also at fault here are the bystanders. It's not unreasonable to assume that in that crowd of kids was at least one who was upset by what was going on and knew it was wrong. But frightened by the situation, it appears that whoever had a conscience in that crowd kept that conscience safely turned off.

It's a terrible scene, and it's played out in schools everywhere day after day in far less dramatic terms, isn't it? We all know how powerful the group mentality can be in a school situation. It's strong and incredibly difficult to resist. You know that because you've seen it.

But here's something else you know.

You know that bad happens when, as the saying goes, good people stand by and stay silent.

You also know that good can only start when those good people, strengthened by the truth that God has put in their hearts, break their silence.

You're one of those good people.

So start talking.



## Parish Diary

FATHER PETER J. DALY  
CNS COLUMNIST

### Cow Chip Bingo

Cows have many uses. They give milk. Their hide makes nice car seats and wallets. Their meat makes an excellent main dish along with onions and a baked potato.

But I never thought that cow poop, sometimes known as "cow chips," could be worth its weight in gold.

A couple of alert parishioners, vigilant to the financial pressures of a growing parish, came up with a creative idea for a fund raiser. We call it "Cow Chip Bingo."

We borrowed the idea from a parish in Pennsylvania.

Cow Chip Bingo works this way.

—First, we divide up our parish field into 4,000 2 foot by 2 foot squares. Each square is numbered. Then we lease out each square for the evening for \$10. The "tenant" gets a little lease to record ownership.

—Second, we borrow a well-fed, contented cow from a local farmer. We release her on our field about dinnertime.

Then we wait. The tenant of whatever square she "plops" on wins 10 percent of the "pot," so to speak.

That's it.

Who would have thought it was so easy to turn cow poop into real "moo-lah"? (I can't help myself.)

You don't have to call this fund raiser "Cow Chip Bingo." One fraternity at our most prestigious state university held a similar fund raiser on their front lawn. They called it "Dumping for Dollars."

I thought we should stick with Cow Chip Bingo. It has

a nice ecclesiastical ring to it. After all, bingo is closely associated with the traditions of the Catholic Church.

Operating Cow Chip Bingo is a lot more complicated than you might think.

For example, what if the cow is constipated? Would people wait in vain? We solved this problem with a time limit. If she hasn't pooped by sundown, we draw a winning number.

On the other hand, what if she is, shall we say, "loose" (in the digestive, not the moral, sense)? She could indiscriminately select winners all over the place. For this eventuality we have a panel of expert judges. These sages are commissioned to review and measure the cow droppings in each square and apportion the winnings accordingly.

Even if Elsie deposits a nice consolidated cow pie, she might do it on a property line between squares. Once again, out comes our panel of expert judges, tape measure in hand.

To my surprise, finding judges was not difficult. We have several poop experts. The local director of our county sewer department volunteered his professional knowledge of biodegradable waste. One mother volunteered, saying that she had changed enough diapers over the years to qualify. A farmer offered his experience, saying he had stepped in many a cow pie and could judge their size and consistency instantly.

There is one other problem: what to do while waiting for the cow to "do her thing." We opted for square dancing and an auction.

Since we have to eat too, we will have a barbeque. The grills will be down wind of the cow, since she may be sensitive about us eating one of her relatives right there in front of her.

The ticket sales are going great. Everywhere I go, people ask about Cow Chip Bingo. Maybe we should take the cow on the road. Like they said in "Hello Dolly," money is like manure, it ain't worth a thing unless it's spread around.

This season our financial hopes are pinned on good old Elsie. May she munch in peace and deposit within the lines.

And if Dave Barry is reading this, I swear I am not making this up!





## Light One Candle

MSGR. JIM LISANTE  
GUEST COLUMNIST

### Sin of omission

Let me tell you about three women I know. Each carries a burden and each could use some relief.

The first woman is Ginny. She's in her mid-50s and recently divorced. Her husband of 30 years decided that younger women were more fun, so he took off with one. Ginny didn't see it coming. She had thought that they had a decent marriage. Ginny is devastated by the reality that "forever" isn't that for her husband.

There are, of course, many side effects of divorce. But one result Ginny had never anticipated was the loss of her married friends. In the beginning, the many couples with whom she'd been neighbors and friends were there for her. They thought her husband a cad and expressed their sympathy. But within months, they just stopped calling.

That's not an uncommon experience. Something in the newly acquired "single" state seems to bother old friends. And Ginny's children have their own newly married lives. So Ginny now finds herself very much alone.

Then there's Martha. She and her husband deeply loved each other. Blessed with three small children, they made the perfect family, until one day, serious illness hit. Her beloved husband had developed inoperable cancer. Martha rose to the challenge. No day went by when he didn't feel her unconditional love, dedication and support. This was clearly not what Martha had expected out of

marriage, but she went the distance, living fully the promise to love and honor "in sickness and in health."

Finally, her husband died. People, over a thousand, came for the wake and funeral. They were moved with pity and compassion for Martha's loss. But now, eight months later, few call and fewer visit. People have moved on with their lives. Some explain that her grief is "too much" for them to handle. Martha loves and cares for her children, but Martha feels the absence of adult company acutely.

Stacy is different from the others, but somehow the same. She is just a difficult woman to be around. Her tone is grating, her sense of timing almost always off. Stacy is like somebody we all know: difficult, a little boring and not a person you'd choose to hang out with. As one old acquaintance put it: "being with Stacy is always work." As a consequence, Stacy is usually alone. When she doesn't cook for herself at home, you'll find her at the local diner, sitting alone, with a look of expectation, hoping that someone will stop to talk. Few do.

All three of these women remind me of the Gospel story of the Good Samaritan. I don't think that the lawyer and the priest in that story were bad people, but at the sight of a recently mugged man who needed their time and effort, they didn't want to get involved. They probably figured that someone else would stop. Someone did. The Good Samaritan is the fellow who makes time for others. And I think that he's needed now more than ever. Certainly, Ginny could use the friendship. Martha would give anything to have a cup of coffee with such a person. Stacy would be delighted to look up from her corner in the diner and see eyes that looked back instead of away. A Samaritan would be welcome to so many.

Here's the thing: you could be that Samaritan, the person who stops, listens and cares - the one who doesn't commit a sin of omission. Give it a try. This week, find just one person who needs a touch of compassion. Say "How are you?" and mean it. Then listen. You'll have become the Good Samaritan, the one who cares enough to spend some of the precious time God has given you to heal another's heart.

### Stuck in deep anger

*I have a terrible anger about what someone has done to me and my children. I can't forgive her and am worried about my eternal salvation. Years ago my husband left us for a woman who had at least two marriages before that. He and I never legally divorced but we did have a legal separation.*

*They lived together for about 14 years, during which time she did everything possible to keep me and the children from having any contact with him. He didn't seem interested either, until his final illness. She kept us away, wouldn't give him messages and told him we didn't want anything to do with him.*

*Though the separation agreement gave us a good share of his assets at his death, we discovered after he died recently that she had arranged a change in his will, giving her everything, his pension, insurance and property.*

*The children (now grown) and I have very little money and really needed what he could have given us after all these years. But my biggest worry is that, while I think I have managed to forgive him, no matter how hard I try I cannot forgive and forget what she has done. Isn't it a serious sin to be so angry? What can I do to get back to God? (Ohio)*

A. I don't believe you are as far from God, or he from you, as you think. Judging only from what you tell me, you and your children have suffered a great injustice. When that happens certain things naturally happen inside us.

First of all, there is a big difference between forgiving and forgetting. You simply cannot ever forget what has been done to you. The memory will come back often whether you want it to or not.

Similarly, you cannot avoid being angry. It is natural and good to become angry when someone does something that badly hurts us or people we love. Anger is nature's (God's) way of energizing and moving us to do what we can to alleviate and correct whatever unjustly causes us loss or pain.

So anger is neither good nor bad. It's what we do with our anger that's important. We can react to it by lashing out in revenge, trying to hurt the others as

## Question Corner

FATHER JOHN DIETZEN  
CNS COLUMNIST



much as, or more than, they have hurt us. Or we can let anger strengthen us to heal, or at least minimize, the pain in ourselves and others, to do our best to replace evil and violence with goodness and love.

That's not easy of course. It takes a good deal of hope and faith; but it is possible, and that's what God's grace is for. Any other approach just piles on more harm for everyone.

So becoming angry or not, or forgetting what happened, are not things over which you have control. Thus they are not sinful.

If you can bring yourself to pray in some way for this woman and decide that you will at least speak to her decently and charitably if the situation arises, you can be confident that you are not refusing to forgive her in the way God asks us. It seems to me that's what you are already trying to do.

For the rest, you need to carefully engage a good attorney who will determine and protect your rights. I hope you have already done that.

*A free brochure on ecumenism, including questions on intercommunion and other ways of sharing worship, is available by sending a self-addressed envelope to Father John Dietzen, Box 325, Peoria, IL 61651.*

*Questions may be sent to Father Dietzen at the same address, or e-mail: jjdietzen@aol.com.*

## Working Matters

JOANITA M.  
NELLENBACH  
GUEST COLUMNIST



### Journalistic expectations

In the Gospel account of Christ's passion (John 18:1-19:42), Jesus says that, "Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice."

That was what Jesus expected.

Pilate, who didn't expect people to be honest, replied, "What is truth?"

Indeed. If Pilate were around today, with the Jayson Blair scandal as front-page news, he might repeat the question.

Blair, a 27-year-old reporter, resigned from The New York Times May 1. The Times later ran a four-page article listing corrections to Blair's stories. According to the May 19 Newsweek, "the corrections for the stories between October 2002 and April 2003 alone ran almost two full pages. ..." Problems, discovered by a New York Times "team of five reporters, three editors and two researchers" included "factual errors" and "plagiarism" (Newsweek, May 19).

I brushed up against journalistic fabrication came when I edited Intercom, an alumni publication. One student's story that everyone liked was about a young woman who had landed her first job. After graduation, the story said, she backpacked through Europe. There was even a sparkling description of how she'd slept one night in a field and awakened the next morning surrounded by grazing cows.

I called her to set up an appointment for a picture to accompany the story. Sounded like her European trip was wonderful, I said. She was mystified. The name in the story was hers, she'd graduated from the college, and she had that job. She'd just never been to Europe.

As far as I know, the student who produced the fictionalized version didn't return to classes the following fall.

Of course, Blair and the student aren't the first reporters to plagiarize and fabricate, and they won't be the last. That sickens journalists who stick to the truth, because our expectation is that our fellow journalists will report the facts.

Yes, I know about journalism's credibility problem, but if I didn't expect journalists to be basically honest, I would quit reading magazines and newspapers. Do I believe everything I read? No. I just expect to believe the majority of what is presented to me as fact.

Articles and commentaries cite Blair's substance-abuse problems; they theorize that his editors favored him because he was black and they were pushing affirmative action. I, however, agree with a story on the Society of Professional Journalists' website: Blair's problem was "ethics, not ethnicity ..."

Whatever the reasons for keeping Blair around, I can't believe management didn't expect him to write factual stories. I'm sure they also expected him to go to the locations from which he filed his stories. In some instances, he didn't do that, either.

Blair supposedly loved journalism. I don't believe it. Journalists who love journalism don't fabricate material. Writers who want to make stories up write fiction, and readers understand that's what it is.

Journalists have also been criticized for being in love with their own words. But if I really love my own words, I don't need to use someone else's — at least not without attribution.

There is room for all our words, but anyone reading a news story shouldn't have to ask, as Pilate did, "What is truth?"



# Gerald Healy accepts new leadership role at CCHS

By KEVIN E. MURRAY  
EDITOR

CHARLOTTE — Gerald Healy, principal of Holy Trinity Catholic Middle School, has accepted the position of principal at Charlotte Catholic High School beginning in the 2003-04 school year.

Healy will take over for Augustinian Father James Cassidy, who is resigning in June upon completion of his three-year assignment to the Diocese of Charlotte. Father Cassidy replaced former principal Mercy Sister Paulette Williams.

"I know the job will be a challenge — both Father James and Sister Paulette have done an incredible job," said Healy. "My job will be to continue the excellence that is there and make sure that it is a community open to all."

After conducting interviews and surveying students, teachers, staff and parents, the Mecklenburg Area Catholic Schools (MACS) Search Committee found Healy exemplified the outstanding qualities required for the position.

Healy, a Catholic, possesses a bachelor's degree from Belmont Abbey College and a master's in education from the University of North Carolina at

Charlotte. He brings over 30 years of service within MACS to his new position; in addition to teaching experience, Healy was previously the dean of students and assistant principal at Charlotte Catholic High School.

"With his qualifications and the match with so many of the qualities desired by students, parents and staff, we feel that Jerry is the perfect choice," said Linda Cherry, superintendent of Catholic Schools for the Diocese of Charlotte. "The entire committee and the diocesan education office are grateful that Jerry has accepted this new opportunity."

A search will begin for a replacement for Healy at Holy Trinity Catholic Middle School. A search committee is being formed and student, teacher and staff surveys will be sent out to the middle school community.

"Jerry will play a major part in this search, so that we ensure the traditions and strong programs at Holy Trinity continue," said Cherry.

*Editor Kevin E. Murray by calling (704) 370-3334 or e-mail kemurray@charlottediocese.org.*

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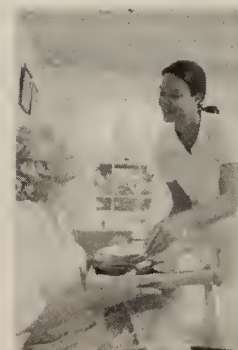
The Life Teen Mass is every Sunday at 5PM during the school year. Our awesome Life Teen band leads Praise and Worship songs, many original. We have a dedicated Core Team made up of singles and couples and a committed group of parent volunteers. Most important, however, are the 150 (and growing) young people who participate in our Spirit Night (Jr. Youth), Life Night (Sr. Youth), other activities and retreats. Also, recent additions to the Family Life Center feature a room dedicated to its youth, a Youth Minister's office, kitchenette and entertainment center.

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## New editor at CN&H

By KAREN A. EVANS  
STAFF WRITER

CHARLOTTE — Kevin Murray was appointed editor of *The Catholic News & Herald* by Msgr. Mauricio W. West, diocesan administrator, May 21.

Murray, who began with the diocesan newspaper as associate editor in February 2002, has been acting editor since the departure of editor Joann Keane in December.

"I am very excited about this opportunity, and I look forward to continuing to serve the people of the Diocese of Charlotte," said Murray.

Murray said he has many goals for the newspaper, including expanded coverage of diocesan events and ministries.

"We have been taking steps to include some of the smaller parishes across western North Carolina, which are all an important part of this diocese," said Murray.

The new editor also hopes to utilize the newspaper as a "teaching tool." Recent examples include the paper's coverage of Mary's role in Catholicism and a new series on the sacraments.

"Many readers want to see stories focusing on the Catholic Church's views and stances on certain issues, such as the just war theory," said Murray.

Murray, a native of Queens, New York, and his wife, Jeannette, are members of St. Michael Church.

## PRINCIPALS, from page 1

duties as principal, Forney also taught religion to the fourth-grade classes.

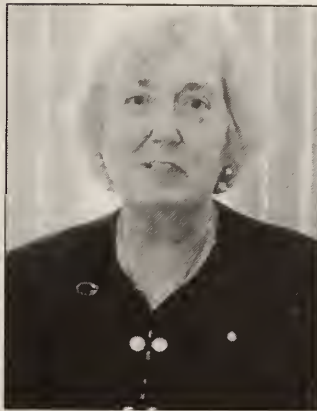
"I take pride in the fact that I was still able to work in the classroom," Forney said. "Not many principals get that opportunity."

Prior to serving as principal at IHM, Forney taught high school-level history for 10 years and was the head of the upper school at Westchester Academy in High Point for three years.

During his tenure at IHM, Forney initiated the Hispanic Outreach Program, in which middle school students spend an hour each week tutoring kindergarten through second-grade students at nearby Thomasville Primary School. He also instituted an honor code and revised the dress code for the middle school.

"I made a lot of changes in two years, but the faculty, parents and students always supported me," he said. "I'm very lucky."

Forney always stressed students' spiritual education as well as academics. IHM students participated in or-



Dr. Veronica Berreen

ganized prayer three times each day.

"No matter how athletic, smart or talented a child is, nothing is possible without God's help," he said. "I want the students to see me as a spiritual leader, not just as a principal or a disciplinarian."

Forney will be relocating to Charleston, S.C. for family reasons. He is considering working with a museum, continuing in school administration or returning to teaching.

Dr. Veronica Berreen is retiring from Asheville Catholic School after 35 years in education. Berreen previ-

ously taught pre-kindergarten through 10th grade at schools in Vermont and New York and was the principal of Dorset School in Dorset, Vt.

"It's a wonderful school," Berreen said of Asheville Catholic. "There's a great sense of cooperation. The children are absolutely lovely, very polite and hard-working."

Faith, she believes, is an important part of the learning process.

"The spiritual life of a child is the essence of learning," she said. "In Catholic education, you can tap into that. Watching that blossom is the greatest satisfaction a teacher can have. I believe parents are the primary teachers, so I include them in that."

"I didn't come here to change anything," Berreen said. "I wanted to grow with Asheville Catholic. I wanted to provide a climate of love and nurturing and joy, in which the children would learn."

"Every educator who comes into contact with a child impacts that child's life for the better," said Linda Cherry, superintendent of diocesan schools. "These three principals have left positive impressions on the lives of the students whom they've touched."

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# Sister of Charity urges church to do more on ethical issues in health care

BY TRACY EARLY  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

NEW YORK — A Sister of Charity who holds dual Canadian-U.S. citizenship told hospital administrators in New York that the church in both countries should do more to address the ethical issues involved in health care.

These issues include not only questions concerning treatment of individuals, but also social justice in public policy, said Sister Nuala Patricia Kenny, a medical doctor on the faculty of Dalhousie University in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

"We have forgotten that public policy is a moral enterprise," she said.

She said the Canadian bishops were "pretty good" on health care issues, but Catholics in the pews and priests in the pulpits were largely ignoring this "justice question." The U.S. bishops need to give it more attention also, she said.

Sister Kenny, who became the founding chairman of the bioethics department in Dalhousie's medical school in 1995, spoke May 22 to the Catholic Healthcare Administrative Personnel program, which is held annually at St. John's University with co-sponsorship by St. Vincent Catholic Medical Centers.

Josephite Sister Annette Fitzpatrick, director of the program, said this year's session drew 48 administrators from several states in this country and from Australia. Participants also included citizens of Ghana, Nigeria, Sierra Leone and Malaysia who were in the United States as students, and planned to take what they learned back to their own countries.

Sister Kenny, a native of New York who joined the Sisters of Charity of Halifax, said Canadians and Americans looked alike, but their systems of health care were based on "profoundly different" values.

Americans, she said, emphasized

freedom of the individual, and viewed government as an obstacle, while Canadians placed more importance on the good of the community.

While the basic American values are commonly summed up as "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness," Canada's are described as "peace, order and good government," she said.

As a consequence, health care in the United States has become a "market good," regulated by competition, but in Canada it is viewed as part of the common good, with coverage for all "regardless of their ability to pay," she said.

Sister Kenny said she was spending some time in the United States when the Clinton's administration's health care reform plan was being debated, and defeated, and she became "angry at the misrepresentation of the Canadian health system" by opponents of the Clinton plan.

U.S. medicine is praised as "the best in the world," but many millions lack coverage, and the infant mortality rate of the United States "is a disgrace," she said. And she said the approach that gives Americans access through insurance provided by employers means loss of care when people lost employment.

Although Canadians in nonacute categories sometimes tire of waiting for medical services and go to U.S. hospitals — and their action gets "hyped in the press" — the number is "exceedingly small," she said.

She conceded that waiting lists where "you cannot buy your way into cardiac surgery" are an "irritant" and are a source of criticism, particularly from wealthier Canadians. But she said Canada should address the problem by managing the system better, not discarding it.

"We have an excellent health care system; it's way cheaper than yours and we have everybody covered," she said.

However, Sister Kenny said the U.S. and Canadian systems both needed to address the issue of limits. Whether a nation has a public system or private insurance companies using managed care, it will have to face the reality of limits on how much can be done, and how much ought to be done in such cases as children demanding that everything be done for elderly parents at the end of life, she said.

She said Canada's system, as set up in 1962, guaranteed that everyone would get services that were "medically necessary." But subsequent developments in such areas as transplants have made it necessary to redefine what are the "core set of services" that are "medically necessary," she said.

In these areas, doctors cannot use the traditional Catholic distinction between ordinary and extraordinary means, she said.

Sister Kenny also said both Canada and the United States needed to give more attention to moral issues raised by advances in technology.

Predicting that someone was bound to clone a human being, she said some people were appalled by anyone who did not go along with the assumption that it was acceptable to do anything technology made it possible to do.

"Now, technology itself is determining moral questions," she said. "Once you develop the technology, it's off and running."

Health itself is a matter of "moral importance," Sister Kenny said. It not only means relief of pain and suffering, but gives people the "opportunity to pursue goals."

The lack of access to health care is a "justice crisis," and the church "has not been forceful enough" on this question, she said.

## Sister Prejean receives Franciscan International Award

BURNSVILLE, Minn. (CNS) — Sister Helen Prejean, the best-selling author of "Dead Man Walking," received the 45th Franciscan International Award May 9 in Burnsville.

Begun in 1959 by the founder of Franciscan Retreats, Father Urban Wagner, the award is presented by the Conventual Franciscan order each year to an individual or group who exemplifies the principles and values brought forth by St. Francis of Assisi.



Sister Helen Prejean

Sister Prejean, a Sister of St. Joseph of Medaille who has ministered to death-row inmates, their families and their victims' families since 1981, was honored for practicing, among other things, the "ancient Franciscan tradition of reconciliation as she meets, weeps and prays with victims of murdered persons."

More than 300 people, including Archbishop Harry J. Flynn of St. Paul and Minneapolis, attended the awards banquet at a Burnsville restaurant.

Previous winners of the Franciscan International Award include entertainer Lawrence Welk, pro-life leader Dr. Mildred Jefferson, broadcast journalist Harry Reasoner, liturgical composer Marty Haugen and the staff of the PBS television series "Sesame Street."



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The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if only we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

Romans 8: 16-17

# The Catholic

## NEWS & HERALD

JUNE 13, 2003

SERVING CATHOLICS IN WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA IN THE DIOCESE OF CHARLOTTE

VOLUME 12 No 36

### Next Issue:

A multistory look at mission work by people of the Diocese of Charlotte.

## Three priests ordained in Diocese of Charlotte



PHOTO BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

Matthew Buettner, Julio Dominguez and Enrique Gonzalez-Gaytan kneel before Bishop William G. Curlin during their ordination Mass at St. John Neumann Church June 7.

*Bishop William G. Curlin proudly welcomed three men into the priesthood at a special, two-hour ordination Mass at St. John Neumann Church in Charlotte June 7.*

*In a passionate homily during the Mass, Bishop Curlin, bishop emeritus, challenged the newly ordained priests to be heroes of the church and reflect Jesus to all they serve.*

**FULL STORY, PAGE 10**

### More Coverage

page 12 | Vocation: A calling to serve God

page 12 | Hickory priest celebrates 40 years

page 13 | Two priests plan active retirements

## Bishops' official welcomes arrest of suspected clinic bomber

By CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — The U.S. bishops' chief spokeswoman for pro-life issues welcomed the news of the arrest of Eric Robert Rudolph, the suspected bomber of abortion clinics and the Olympic Park site in Atlanta in 1996.

"We are gratified by the prospect of the suspected perpetrator of these terrible attacks

See RUDOLPH, page 9

## FIGHTING FOR LIFE Cardinal praises House vote on partial-birth abortion ban

*New legislation addresses new medical findings of unnecessary procedure*

By NANCY FRAZIER O'BRIEN

CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE WASHINGTON (CNS)

— The House's 282-139 vote June 4 in favor of a ban on partial-birth abortions moves the nation one step closer to achieving a goal sought by most Americans, Cardinal Anthony J. Bevilacqua of Philadelphia said in a statement.

"In voting to ban this procedure, one of the most heinous acts ever perpetrated upon an unborn child, Congress is in

See BAN, page 18

### GRADUATION 2003

## Catholic grads embark on new futures

### Bishop McGuinness students carry skills, faith

By REV. MR. GERALD POTKAY

CORRESPONDENT

WINSTON-SALEM —

Commencement exercises for the senior class of Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School took place at Salem College Fine Arts Center in Old Salem May 31.

See GRADUATION, page 6

### More Coverage

page 6 | Our Lady of the Mountains hosts baccalaureate service

page 7 | Charlotte Catholic grads march toward bright future

page 7 | BAC celebrates 125th commencement



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

Seniors celebrate their graduation from Charlotte Catholic High School June 5 at Owens Auditorium. The 48th commencement exercises saw 228 young men and women walk boldly in a future filled with hope and promise.

### Beloved principal returns to classroom

*Betsy DesNoyer leaves All Saints School*

...PAGE 5

### Spirit Ninjas reveal power through service

*Youth group employs mystique to do good work*

...PAGE 9

### Four Sisters of Mercy celebrate combined 150 years of service

...PAGE 20

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## Pope accepts resignation of Miami Auxiliary Bishop Roman

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Pope John Paul II has accepted the resignation of Bishop Agustin A. Roman, who has been an auxiliary bishop of Miami since 1979. Archbishop Gabriel Montalvo, apostolic nuncio to the United States, made the announcement in Washington June 7. The Cuban-born bishop turned 75 on May 5. According to canon law, bishops are required to turn in their resignation to the pope when they reach 75. His retirement leaves 23 active Hispanic bishops in the United States. Archbishop John C. Favalora of Miami praised Bishop Roman in a statement for his "genuine and authentic love for God and for all others." He said, "Words are inadequate to express how inspirational his life and ministry have been to countless of thousands. His holiness of life has been borne in and through his sufferings as a Cuban exile."

## Couple sees role of lay missionaries growing in importance to church

MARYKNOLL, N.Y. (CNS) — The role of the lay missionary will have growing importance in the church of the future, according to a lay couple who recently completed a term of service in El Salvador. Timothy and Ellen Dabagian O'Connell said in an interview at Maryknoll headquarters June 6 that the growth in the lay missionary movement is not just a substitute for declining numbers of priests and religious. According to the couple, opportunities for lay missionaries "are opening up more and more, and lay people are realizing their responsibility." Both said people are excited about living out their faith. Timothy, 36, a native of Framingham, Mass., and Ellen, 34, from the Philadelphia suburb of Upper Darby, contacted Maryknoll shortly after they married in 1998. The following year they joined the Maryknoll Mission Association of the Faithful and — after a four-month orientation and an initial assignment to Kenya that did not work out — they were sent to El Salvador. Under the pro-

## Residents attempt to collect water in drought-stricken India



CNS PHOTO FROM REUTERS

People attempt to collect water from a well in the village of Natwarghad, state of Gujarat, in India June 1. Dams, ponds and wells in western and northern Gujarat have gone dry, forcing people to wait in the severe heat for irregular state-run water tankers to show up.

gram, lay Catholics sign up for three-year terms, rather than make lifetime commitments. But they can renew their contracts, and many have done this for multiple terms.

## Could active churches get a slice of federal preservation fund pie?

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The Old North Church, where popular history says Paul Revere hung a lantern in the tower to warn "the British are coming," is the easy argument. A tougher legal case to make for a new Interior Department policy allowing federal preservation grants to go to properties that are used for religious purposes might be Baltimore's Basilica of the National Shrine of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary or

Arizona's Mission San Xavier del Bac. Like the Old North Church, both clearly have secular value, as part of the history of the European settlement of the Chesapeake Bay region, and the desert Southwest. The change in policy was announced with great fanfare May 27 by Interior Secretary Gale Norton and Jim Towey, director of the White House Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives, on the steps of the Old North Church. The 280-year-old Episcopal church will receive \$317,000 from the Interior Department to repair and renovate its antique windows. The church must match the grant. Until now, religious buildings could only receive such funding if they no longer were used for religious activities.

## Senate votes to extend tax credit criticized by church, others

WASHINGTON (CNS) — A tax cut bill widely criticized for leaving the poorest families out of a tax credit would be expanded to include them under another bill approved by the Senate June 5. The original tax cut bill signed into law May 28 was called a disappointment by the chairman of the U.S. bishops' Committee on Domestic Policy in a letter to White House senior adviser Karl Rove. The U.S. bishops are "very disappointed that the tax bill just signed by the president does not increase the refundable portion of the child tax credit," said the June 3 letter from Cardinal Theodore E. McCarrick of Washington. His was just one in a chorus of voices complaining about the bill's exclusion of the poorest families with children from an expansion of the credit. Democrats in the House and Senate blocked several routine bills in protest, before Senate leaders allowed a vote on a bill to include lower-wage families in the expanded credit.

## U.S. museum tour grants first-time glimpse of Vatican artifacts

WASHINGTON (CNS) — A Vatican art exhibit currently on tour in the United States gives museum-goers a glimpse of Rome that they wouldn't see even if they traveled to the Eternal City, according to the exhibition's Vatican director. "It brings the Vatican, in a sense, here," said Dominican Father Allen Duston, coordinator of Patrons and Friends of the Vatican Museums, of the exhibit, "St. Peter and the Vatican: Legacy of the Popes," currently on display at the Houston Museum of Natural Science. "Many people don't have the time, the opportunity or the money to go to the Vatican and even if they did they wouldn't see the items in the exhibit because most of them are in places closed to the public," he told Catholic News Service in a telephone interview while he was in Houston — the exhibit's first stop until July 27. The exhibit's next stop will be Fort Lauderdale, Fla., and then Cincinnati before closing in San Diego in September 2004.

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## Diocesan planner

### Upcoming Parish Events June

**16 CHARLOTTE** — Christians in Career Transition is a ministry of St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy., devoted to helping people in career crises. The meetings will take place on the first and third Mondays of every month 7-9 p.m. in the conference room. For more information, call Rev. Mr. Jim Hamrlik at (704) 576-0456.  
**16 ASHEVILLE** — The St. Martin De Porres Pro-Chapter of the Dominican Laity will be meeting tonight and every third Monday at 7 p.m. in St. Justin's Center at the Basilica of St. Lawrence, 97 Haywood St. Inquirers are welcome. For more information, contact Beverly Reid, OPL, at (828) 253-6676.  
**16 CHARLOTTE** — The Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians Division 1 Mecklenburg County-St. Brigid, an Irish-Catholic social and charitable in-

ter-parish group, will meet tonight at 7:30 p.m. at St. Gabriel Church, 3016 Providence Rd. Anyone interested in their Irish-Catholic roots, call Jeanmarie Schuler at (704) 554-0720 for further information.

**17 GASTONIA** — An interfaith prayer vigil for peace will be held tonight 7-8 p.m. at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 805 S. York St. For details, please call Holy Trinity at (704) 864-0378, or Dennis Teall-Fleming, director of faith formation at Queen of Apostles Catholic Church, at (704) 825-9600, ext. 26, or teallfleming@yahoo.com.

**18 HUNTERSVILLE** — Natural Family Planning classes are being held the 3rd Wednesday of every month at 7 p.m. at St. Mark Catholic Church, 14740 Stumptown Rd., Room 200. Classes are taught by Dr. Matthew Harrison. All are welcome to attend, no registration required. Call (704) 948-0231 for directions and more information.

**19 CHARLOTTE** — New Creation Monastery, 11517 Spreading Oaks Ln., is celebrating Mass today at 5 p.m. in honor of St. Ronuald, who established the

Camaldolese monastic tradition in 1012. Mass will be followed by a cookout. Call Father John Vianney Hoover at (704) 541-5026 for reservations and directions.

**20 CHARLOTTE** — Thank God It's Friday (TGIF), a weekly support group for separated and divorced women, meets tonight at 7 p.m. in the St. Matthew Church parish center, 8015 Ballantyne Pkwy., with its monthly potluck dinner with a guest speaker from the community. TGIF is a healing ministry sponsored by Catholic Social Services, Charlotte Regional Office and St. Matthew Church. For details, call Trish Wilson at (704) 543-8986.

**21 MAGGIE VALLEY** — St. John the Evangelist Church will host a retreat, "Spirituality Through Life's Transition," for women of all ages today at the Living Waters Catholic Retreat Center, 103 Living Waters Ln. Registration begins at 9 a.m. and the retreat will end at 3:30 p.m. Pre-registration is required by June 12. Please call Jean Burton at (828) 452-1916 or e-mail jeanburton@charter.net to make your reservation.

**22 CHARLOTTE** — St. Matthew



### Memories, magical moments: Postcards from 25 years of papal travel

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — As Pope John Paul II embarked on the 100th foreign trip of his pontificate in early June, reporters and papal aides — and perhaps the pontiff himself — were reminiscing about the places they've seen in 25 years of travel. The pope has visited 129 countries, spending more than 570 days outside of Italy and the Vatican. Along the way, he's taken the papacy to locations most popes only dreamed of, from exotic islands of the South Pacific to the Great Plains of North America. His odometer began ticking three months after his election in 1978, with a trip to the Dominican Republic, Mexico and the Bahamas. Journalists were awed when the pope strolled to the back of the plane and started fielding questions, inaugurating the first airborne papal press conference. Since then, the trips have yielded many memories and magical moments — postcards from an era of papal travel.

### Vatican official says trip to Mongolia depends on pope's health

RIJEKA, Croatia (CNS) — A proposed papal trip to Mongolia in August is still under consideration but mainly depends on the health of the 83-year-old pontiff, the Vatican's secretary of state said June 5. "It depends on the conditions of the health of the pope," Cardinal Angelo Sodano told reporters traveling with Pope John Paul II in Croatia. The cardinal noted that a trip to Mongolia, a country with only about 100 Catholics, was a long flight and would be a difficult journey for the elderly pontiff, who suffers from Parkinson's disease and no longer walks in public.

### Bishop Gregory says church must not be silenced by sex abuse crisis

BELLEVILLE, Ill. (CNS) — Like parents who do not stop being parents because they have made mistakes with their children, the U.S. bishops cannot allow their moral voice to be silenced by the clergy sexual abuse scandal, said Bishop Wilton D. Gregory of Belleville.

Church, 8015 Ballantyne Pkwy., will be hosting an Ultreya 1:30-3 p.m. today with childcare and a family potluck. There will also be a men's weekend July 24-27 and a women's weekend August 7-10, both at St. Matthew Church. For more information, call Dan Hines at (704) 544-6665.

**22 HENDERSONVILLE** — The St. Francis of the Hills Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order will meet today 3-5 p.m. at Immaculate Conception Church, 208 7th Ave. West. Visitors and inquirers are welcome, so for more information, call Helen Gillogly, SFO, at (828) 883-9645.

**22 HIGH POINT** — Bishop William G. Curlin, bishop emeritus, will be celebrant and homilist at a Mass in honor of the Feast of Corpus Christi this afternoon at 3 p.m. at Maryfield Chapel, 1315 Greensboro Rd. There will be a procession of the Blessed Sacrament and blessing of the sick after Mass. For further information, please call Maryfield at (336) 886-2444.

**23 NEWTON** — The Little Flowers Catholic Girls' Group is for all Catholic girls ages five and up. The group will be meeting at St. Joseph Church, 720 West

The bishop, who is president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, made the comments in an interview marking the first anniversary of the bishops' formal response to the crisis. He spoke about a wide range of issues raised by the scandal in a June 3 interview with Liz Quirin, editor of The Messenger, Belleville diocesan newspaper. "There are clearly people, groups that would like to say this moment should silence the Catholic Church," he said. "It cannot and will not. There are concerns that belong to the demands and dictates of the Gospel and the church's faith that we must speak to irrespective of the mistakes that have been made."

### Massachusetts Catholics, legislators urged to fight same-sex marriage

BOSTON (CNS) — Anticipating a state court ruling this summer that would allow same-sex marriages, the heads of Massachusetts' four Catholic dioceses urged legislators and Catholics to work for an amendment to the state Constitution that would reaffirm the legal definition of marriage as the union between one man and one woman. "Marriage as we know it will be irreparably harmed if we don't respond quickly," the Catholic leaders said in a joint statement read in all Massachusetts parishes at Masses May 31 and June 1. In a separate message to legislators June 2, they urged quick passage of the Marriage Affirmation and Protection Amendment in an upcoming joint session of the Legislature "so that, ultimately, the people can vote on it." The statements were signed by Bishop Richard G. Lennon, apostolic administrator of the Archdiocese of Boston; Bishops Daniel P. Reilly of Worcester and Thomas L. Dupre of Springfield; and Bishop-designate George W. Coleman of Fall River, who is to be ordained a bishop July 22.

### Success in Iraq lies in respecting local culture, CRS official says

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The key to a successful humanitarian aid program in Iraq by faith-based agencies lies in working through local partners, said a Catholic Relief Services official.

13th St., at 4 p.m. in the Holy Family Hall. For more details, call Debbie Vickers at (828) 495-2039.

**25 GUILFORD COUNTY** — The Ancient Order of Hibernians Guilford County Division, the oldest and largest order of Irish Catholic men, is looking for more Irish Catholic men to join them for meetings, educational seminars and social events. Contact Michael Slane at (336) 665-9264 for time and location.

**25 SYLVA** — St. Mary Church will be offering a four-part series on praying the "Prayer of the Church," as it is prayed by priests and religious as well as a growing number of lay people around the world. The monthly sessions are scheduled for Wednesday evenings following the 5:30 p.m. Mass, 6-7 p.m. Session II will be "Introduction to the book 'Christian Prayer,'" and will address how to pray morning prayer in a community, and what options are available. As materials must be prepared, please call the office (828) 586-9496 to pre-register.

**27 GREENSBORO** — St. Pius Church, 2210 N. Elm St., will present

### Good vs. Bad

## On the Religion Beat

Recent study finds disparity in coverage of religion

Boston Globe

6 35

USA Today

6 31

Washington Post

4 23

Los Angeles Times

3 22

New York Times

2 20

Chicago Tribune

9 19

Seattle Post-Intelligencer

9 16

Atlanta Journal-Constitution

6 11

Source: University of Rochester

### Interesting Finding:

If Islam and Catholicism were dropped from the count, each paper's percentage of religion stories associated with good or bad deeds drops precipitously.

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CNS GRAPHIC BY ANTHONY DEFeO

### Media coverage of religion

A recent study of the media found the largest percentage of stories on religion reported crimes and bad deeds, while fewer stories reported the good done in communities by faith groups. For example, most coverage of Islam focused on radical Muslims and terrorism; most stories on Catholicism were about clergy sex abuse. In the study, newspapers are compared for the number of articles and type of coverage they give to religion in their pages.

Foreign Christian agencies could run into problems in Iraq and elsewhere in the Middle East if the goal of their work is conversions, said speakers at a June 4 panel discussion on the work of faith-based humanitarian aid organizations in Iraq. The panel was sponsored by the Pew Forum on Religion and Public Life. Kathleen Moynihan, who is managing

Catholic Relief Services' operations in Iraq, said CRS first met with local partner agencies and community leaders and used that input before developing a program. "What we found was that that approach was well received," she said. She said CRS clearly states its goal "not to convert, but to make sure you don't starve, or that your baby has food."

John Angotti in concert tonight at 7 p.m. Angotti, the director of music at St. Ann Church in Bartlett, Tenn., has performed with the U.S. Navy Band. The concert is free and open to the public. Please bring two cans of food for Servant Center. For details, call (336) 272-4681.

**28 SALISBURY** — School of Leaders will meet at Sacred Heart Church today 9-11:30 a.m., following the 8 a.m. Mass. For more information, call Dan Hines at (704) 544-6665 or visit [www.charlottecursillo.org](http://www.charlottecursillo.org). To receive Cursillo information via e-mail contact [bmayer@alltel.net](mailto:bmayer@alltel.net).

**28 CHARLOTTE** — St. Thomas Aquinas Church, 1400 Suther Rd., will present Father Ho Lung's "SPIRIT" Concert at 7:30 p.m. tonight. Father Ho Lung, the "Mother Teresa of the Caribbean," is known for his powerful, emotional songs that have been sung at Papal Masses and used in Catholic liturgies and other worship services worldwide. His Caribbean-sounding concert transcends all cultural and ethnic boundaries. All proceeds will go to fund missions in Jamaica, Haiti, India,

Philippines and Uganda. For details, contact Carol Vincent at (704) 845-4534 or [CarolVincent1@aol.com](mailto:CarolVincent1@aol.com) or Margo Colasanti at (704) 846-4168 or [margocolasanti@aol.com](mailto:margocolasanti@aol.com).

**29 CHARLOTTE** — St. Matthew Church, 8015 Commons Pkwy., will repeat Father Ho Lung's "SPIRIT" Concert at 2 p.m. today.

### Upcoming events

**HOT SPRINGS** — Jesuit House of Prayer, 289 NW US 25/70, is offering several upcoming retreats. Six-day Ignatian directed retreats will be held July 7-14, August 3-10 and August 22-29. Also offered is a women's AA retreat August 15-17, women's spirituality retreat September 5-7 and men's spirituality retreat October 31-November 2. For more information, call (828) 622-7366 or e-mail [vpaul@Madison.main.nc.us](mailto:vpaul@Madison.main.nc.us)

Please submit notices of parish events for the Diocesan Planner at least three weeks prior to the event date in writing to Karen A. Evans at [kaevans@charlottediocese.org](mailto:kaevans@charlottediocese.org) or fax to (704) 370-3382.



# Conference to focus on church's work for justice in Appalachia

LAKE JUNALUSKA — The upcoming Bishop Begley Conference on Appalachia will be an opportunity for church personnel and laity from throughout the 27 dioceses in the 13-state Appalachia region to explore a wide range of social justice and socio-economic concerns of the region.

The October conference, held at the Lake Junaluska Conference and Retreat Center and sponsored by the Catholic Social Service's Office of Justice and Peace, will offer attendees a broad exposure to the Catholic Church's response, in word and deed, to a variety of regional socio-economic concerns.

More than half of the Diocese of Charlotte is part of Appalachia, with 29 of its 46 counties lying within the federally defined region of Appalachia. Roughly 33 percent of the diocese's population lives in these 29 counties, according to the Office of Justice and Peace. Several of the poorest counties in North Carolina are in the far western section of the state (in the diocese's Smoky Mountain Vicariate).

"Conference participants will find this conference to be a wonderful opportunity to learn more about a very diverse and very beautiful part of our country," said Joe Purello, conference organizer and director of the Office of Justice and Peace.

"They will also learn firsthand about numerous empowerment efforts that the Church has undertaken in the region."

Participants will be updated on socio-economic issues raised in the 1975 and 1995 pastoral letters of the U.S. Bishops of the Appalachian region, "This Land is Home to Me" and "At Home in the Web of Life." Pertinent issues that have arisen since these pastoral letters were published, that are important to Appalachia's future, will also be discussed.

The conference will give special no-

tice of the role that Bishop Michael J. Begley, first bishop of Charlotte, played as president of the Catholic Committee of Appalachia when the idea of writing an Appalachian pastoral letter was first introduced.

Workshops highlighting grassroots empowerment efforts and plenary presentations will be targeted to, and designed for, diocesan social action offices, Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) sponsored community organizations, and all who wish to expand their knowledge of both the Appalachian region and the Church's response to Appalachian socio-economic concerns.

Plenary session speakers are Bishop Walter F. Sullivan of Richmond on "Raising a New Consciousness of What it Means to be Church"; Congregation of Notre Dame Sister Beth Davies on "Seeking to Understand the Struggles and Joys of Appalachia"; Joseph Holland on "Exploring Connections, Seeking Sustainability"; and Glenmary Father John Rausch on "Appalachia in a Globalized Economy."

## Want to go?

The Bishop Begley Conference on Appalachia will take place Oct. 10-Oct. 12 at Lake Junaluska Conference and Retreat Center (25 minutes west of Asheville).

Registration fee by July 15 is \$50; after July 15 is \$60 (lodging and meals are an additional cost).

For registration and lodging information, contact The Office of Justice and Peace at (704) 370-3225, (704) 370-3231, or go online at [www.cssnc.org/justicepeace](http://www.cssnc.org/justicepeace).

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## St. Joseph to rededicate church

### Parishioners turn tragedy into triumph

NEWTON — Parishioners of St. Joseph Church will celebrate the rededication of their church this Sunday, June 15.

Bishop William G. Curlin, bishop emeritus; Father Jim Collins, pastor; and several former priests of St. Joseph are expected to participate in the ceremony.

St. Joseph Church experienced a devastating fire on Feb. 28, 2002, the result of a candle left burning in the church's chapel. While the majority of the structural, mechanical and electrical damage was contained to the chapel, the sanctuary received extensive smoke and water damage.

Unwilling to seek a new church for worship, the congregation decided to turn the tragedy into an opportunity by rebuilding, improving and enlarging the church. The sanctuary was expanded and classrooms were added to alleviate overcrowding.

During the 13-month rebuilding project, Mass was celebrated in the parish hall.

The newly renovated church saw its first celebration of Mass on Holy Thursday in April.



PHOTO BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

St. Joseph Church parishioners survey damages hours after the church's chapel was consumed by fire Feb. 28, 2002.

## Want to go?

The rededication of St. Joseph Church, 720 West 13th Street in Newton, will take place at 4 p.m. on Sunday, June 15. The celebration and following reception is open to the public. For more information, call (828) 464-9207.

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#### 7/14 - 7/20: A Journey of the Heart

Br. John Malich, FMS, spiritual director and retreat minister for over 30 years, invites you to stop, slow down and remember who you are in the light of the powerful love of God for you personally. How do you love yourself and your neighbor with consistency and without anger? Where does God speak to you in your daily life? Is brokenness and suffering a gift in disguise? Cost: \$325

#### 7/28 - 8/3: We Are God's Work of Art

Sr. Jeanne Williams, OSF, an experienced retreat director, licensed massage therapist, musician, and liturgical dancer, helps you deepen your awareness of your own sacredness as a unique creation of the Divine Artist. Surrounded by the beauty of nature, she will help you explore who God is for you and who you are before God. Cost: \$325

For more information, call (828) 926-3833, fax (828) 926-1997 or visit [www.catholicretreat.org](http://www.catholicretreat.org). 103 Living Waters Lane Maggie Valley, NC 28751



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# Beloved principal returns to the classroom

*Betsy DesNoyer to teach religion at Charlotte Catholic*

By KAREN A. EVANS  
STAFF WRITER

CHARLOTTE — After eleven years in administration, Betsy DesNoyer is returning to her first love. On Aug. 18, 2003, she will be at Charlotte Catholic High School, teaching religion to some of the very students she taught as elementary school students.

DesNoyer originally came to the Diocese of Charlotte in 1989 to teach social studies and religion at St. Ann School. Three years later, she was hired as the assistant principal at the newly opened All Saints Catholic School. In 1995 Principal Gary Gelo took a position as superintendent of North Louisiana Catholic Schools in Shreveport, La., and DesNoyer was hired as the principal.

Her primary goal as principal of All Saints was to continue Gelo's commitment to the school's growth as a community, DesNoyer said. She also worked with the faculty to enhance the curriculum and making certain that it was constantly moving forward.

"I wanted to ensure that All Saints is a faith-filled community," she said. "We've always had a theme of 'being Jesus for one another.'"

DesNoyer considers her greatest accomplishment to be an extension of that goal — that she helped shape the students, parents and faculty of All Saints into a family.

"Betsy is a motherly influence on us. Her actions are Christ-like — she is a model of Christ for teachers and students alike," said Kevin O'Herron, assistant principal at All Saints.

During an interview June 4, Lou White, whose three daughters attend Charlotte Catholic, Holy Trinity Catholic Middle School and All Saints, stopped by DesNoyer's office to thank her for her time at All Saints.

"She created an outstanding environment for years here," White said. "(She formed) a great balance between education and the religion. She's an all-around great leader for the children, the parents and the teachers."

DesNoyer began considering a return to the classroom several years ago. With All Saints School being consolidated into the new St. Matthew Catholic School in southeast Charlotte, it seemed to DesNoyer like a good time to make the transition. O'Herron has accepted the position as principal of St. Matthew Catholic School.



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

## Principal bids farewell to All Saints School

Betsy DesNoyer, principal of All Saints Catholic School for the past eight years, says goodbye to her students at the end of the day. When the students were dismissed for summer June 6, it was farewell for DesNoyer as well. After 11 years in administration, she will return to the classroom in August as a religion teacher at Charlotte Catholic High School.

"I missed the close interaction with the children," she said.

She said that although she will miss everyone at All Saints, especially the students, she is looking forward to the new challenge of working with high school students. She also realize that it

will be a different environment with high school students.

"My daughter said to me, 'Mom, don't be looking for any kids to run up and throw their arms around you. They're not doing that at Charlotte Catholic,'" DesNoyer said, laughing. "They're going to go the other way."

In her new position, DesNoyer hopes to become as much a part of the Charlotte Catholic family as she has been at All Saints, including being involved in the extracurricular activities at the school.

"I want to teach them that religion is something that we live," she said. "It's the example that they set for each other, that they see in their leaders, in their parents and in their teachers. But it's their parents that teach them the most."

"With Betsy's many years of service in the Mecklenburg Area Catholic Schools, I was thrilled that although she decided to retire as principal, she wasn't willing to retire from the system," said Linda Cherry, superintendent of diocesan Catholic Schools Administration. "I look forward to her sharing her talents with the high school students and the entire faculty at Charlotte Catholic, just as she has done at All Saints."

"I'll always love All Saints," DesNoyer said. "It will always be a wonderful memory and a big part of my life."

Contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans by calling (704) 370-3354 or e-mail [kaevans@charlottediocese.org](mailto:kaevans@charlottediocese.org).

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## GRADUATION, from page 1

"We are delighted to be back at the Salem College Fine Arts Center for our commencement with a graduating class of 83 seniors," said Principal George Repass. "Everything we do comes to this, which makes this day very exciting."

During the welcome ceremony, Repass called the event "a celebration of ourselves and a celebration of the system, because we do it right at Bishop McGuinness."

The seniors were the second class to graduate from the new Bishop McGuinness facility in Kernersville, which opened two years ago. This class, according to Repass, "spent half of their high school life at the Link Road location in Winston-Salem and the other half at the Kernersville location."

Msgr. Mauricio W. West, diocesan administrator, offered remarks and handed out diplomas at the ceremony.

"We recognize and applaud the parents of these young men and women for providing a Catholic education," he said to the audience. "It is also important to give thanks to Almighty God and it is most important for these young graduates to lead lives worthy of the Lord."

Sarah Elizabeth Lee, class valedictorian, told the graduates the "past

four years of Catholic education is the foundation for the rest of our lives." She also encouraged her fellow seniors to "get involved ... don't sweat the small stuff ... always cherish life" and "don't do anything for someone else to compromise who you are."

Dennis Allen, former teacher and dean of students, gave the commencement address.

"Today you are embarking on a truly exciting journey in life .... You have all the tools necessary and must now rely upon the strong foundation and moral values you have," he said.

Allen indicated the difference between those who succeed and those who do not is the lack of will.

"Do not be afraid to fail on your way to success. Perseverance makes the difference," he said. "Look at where you are today and those who helped you achieve this day. Now it is your turn to help those who need you. People who make a difference are those who care."

"I expect our graduates to leave our schools with not only the academic and life skills needed to succeed in life, but the faith-filled virtues of love, respect and caring for one another as Catholics and Christians," said Linda Cherry, superintendent of diocesan Catholic schools.

"This truly is a class that will go forth and lead — in whatever paths they choose — with the respect, love and caring that is a trademark of our Catholic schools," said Cherry. "I wish every success and happiness to all of them."

"They are sending us out into the world for which they well prepared us," said graduate Andrew Achter.

"Today marks a time to reflect on the last four years with all of the activities and plays we've participated in. While pondering these experiences, we must now think about the future,"

said graduate Brian Trenor. "It's a sad time because we are all leaving, but, at the same time, it is a beginning of a new age."

Contact Correspondent Rev. Mr. Gerald Potkay by calling (336) 427-8218 or e-mail [gpotkay@triad.rr.com](mailto:gpotkay@triad.rr.com).



PHOTOS BY REV. MR. GERALD POTKAY

Top: Bishop McGuinness seniors receive diplomas from Msgr. Mauricio W. West, diocesan administrator, with the assistance of Linda Cherry, superintendent of diocesan Catholic schools. Above: Bishop McGuinness graduates recess after the ceremony.

## Our Lady of the Mountains hosts ecumenical baccalaureate service

HIGHLANDS — Twelve graduates and three faculty members attended the baccalaureate service for Highlands High School's class of 2003 at Our Lady of the Mountains Church May 25.

It was the first time in the church's 53-year history that the baccalaureate service was held at Our Lady of the Mountains.

Father William Evans, administrator of Our Lady of the Mountains, which is under the custodial care of St. Francis of Assisi in Franklin, gave the welcome address. Other ministers taking part in the ecumenical event were Rev. Hunter Coleman of First Presbyterian Church, Rev. Dan Robinson of First Baptist Church, Rev. Steve Kerhoulas of Community Bible Church and Rev. Mike

Jones of the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation.

Father Evans' address to the graduates exhorted them to love one another and recognize now how dignified they are because God loved them into existence.

The theme of the service was taken from the song "Companions on the Journey" by Christian musician Carey Landry. Music for the four-voice choir was composed for the occasion by John Williams, an Our Lady of the Mountains parishioner.

Each graduate was recognized and presented a small keepsake gift from Our Lady of the Mountains Church and community. A reception followed the service.



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# Charlotte Catholic grads march toward bright future

By KAREN A. EVANS  
STAFF WRITER

CHARLOTTE — Jubilant seniors walked across the stage of Ovens Auditorium and into the next phase of their lives June 5. In a rare break in the rainy weather, the sun shone brightly as 228 eager graduates of Charlotte Catholic High School readied themselves for a moment they've been waiting for 4 years.

A sea of navy robes filled the center section of the auditorium as the students took their places, flanked by their instructors in the aisle seats. The mood, like the weather, was bright and warm. A flurry of flashbulbs lit the room as the familiar strains of Elgar's "Pomp and Circumstance" filled the air.

The diplomas were conferred by Msgr. Mauricio W. West, diocesan administrator; Linda Cherry, superintendent of diocesan Catholic schools; and Father James Cassidy, principal of

Charlotte Catholic.

Members of the class of 2003 endured many distractions in their four years at Charlotte Catholic: violence at home and abroad, a hotly-contested presidential election and the beginning of a new millennium.

There were hopeful signs, too: Most importantly, Americans experienced a renewed patriotism, devotion to their faiths and the support of the world in the wake of 9/11.

Soon this tight-knit group of students will take their first steps into the world beyond high school. In the fall, they will disperse to small-town and urban universities alike, such as Duke University, University of Notre Dame, U.S. Naval and Air Force academies and most of the Universities of North Carolina campuses.

Not all of these graduates are taking the usual college path, however. Jill D'Agostino will skate on the professional ice show circuit while Derek Floyd will

learn how to flambé and sauté at Johnson and Wales University.

Seventy-nine members of Charlotte Catholic's class of 2003 were awarded scholarships, totaling nearly \$4.2 million. Scholarships were bestowed by institutions as prestigious as Wake Forest University, UNC-Chapel Hill and Boston College. Three students — Jack Carley, Courtney Tighe and Lindsey Tighe — were among 8,000 National Merit Scholarship recipients.

The students praised their Catholic education and its intimate learning environment.

"Nowhere else can you have faith and academics in a loving environment," said Lauren Graham of her Catholic education. Graham, a recipient of a Furman University Achiever Scholarship and Furman University Honor Scholarship, will study English at Furman this fall.

"Our education at Catholic has taught

us the value of character, integrity, acceptance and community," said Erica Cloer in her salutatory address. "The loving support found here at Charlotte Catholic fosters the need for the strength of community that is the testament to the value of an education here at Charlotte Catholic."

"As a class, our greatest attribute lies in the strength of the individuals, and the ability of these individuals to bond together and unite as one," Cloer said. "Above all things, our education at Charlotte Catholic has been a quest for understanding: understanding of academia, understanding of the world, understanding of others and most importantly, understanding of self."

Valedictorian Julia Harding commented on the journey the graduates had taken over the course of their education. As elementary school students, she said, they all asked the same basic questions: Why is the sky blue? How does the sun know when to rise? As they grew up into teenagers, their questions became more complicated: What are we going to do here? Who is God in our lives?

"We all found God somewhere in our lives as we tested the fire, got burnt by the hard times and emerged amazingly strengthened by the experience," said Harding. "The time has come to turn inward to find what it is that motivates each of us to succeed."

"It is time to trust that our parents and teachers have indeed prepared us for what lies ahead; time to trust each other to believe that we are uniquely qualified to take on the world. And it is time to trust ourselves to make this truly the best of all possible worlds."

Following the closing prayer, the euphoric graduates marched out into the open green space behind Ovens Auditorium. After tossing their caps in the air against a soft evening sky, young men and women embraced each other as if for the first time and the last.

"The future lies in the hands of a certain chosen people, and we are that people. I cannot make any promises about tomorrow, except to say that there will be a tomorrow and that it will be unlike any other," concluded Harding.

Contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans by calling (704) 370-3354 or e-mail [kaevans@charlottediocese.org](mailto:kaevans@charlottediocese.org).



PHOTOS BY KAREN A. EVANS

Above left: Soon-to-be graduates process into Ovens Auditorium for commencement exercises. Above right: Proud family members pose with a Charlotte Catholic graduate for a photograph.

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## Belmont Abbey College celebrates 125th commencement

BELMONT, NC — One hundred and fifty graduating seniors walked across the stage and accepted their diplomas at Belmont Abbey College's 125th commencement ceremonies with the class of 2003 May 10.

The day's activities began with a baccalaureate Mass in the Abbey Basilica, followed by commencement in which the college presented 150 graduates with bachelor of arts and bachelor of science degrees.

The college recognized faculty achievements, including Dr. Nathalie Coté as this year's recipient of the Adrian

Award, and honored two exceptional community leaders with doctorates in Humane Letters: Msgr. William J. Linder of Newark, N.J., and Bishop John Joseph Leibrecht of Springfield, Mo.

Belmont Abbey College, named one of the country's leading private liberal arts colleges by U.S. News and World Report, consists of the college, the Benedictine monastery and the Abbey Basilica. Students with diverse religious and cultural backgrounds from around the world pursue undergraduate degrees in a number of liberal arts course offerings.



## Charlotte Catholic scholarship, awards winners

CHARLOTTE — Charlotte Catholic High School graduating seniors won an array of scholarships. They are:

Michael Baranowski: St. Louis University Tuition Scholarship.

Courtney Barlow: McKissick Scholarship to University of South Carolina.

Meredith Bivens: Gaddy Scholarship; Jesse A. Williams Scholarship; Wake Forest College Scholarship; Wilma L. McCurdy Scholarship; North Carolina Scholarship to Wake Forest University.

Jack Carley: University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Merit Scholarship.

Halee Culicerto: Virginia Tech Grant; College of Creative Fine Arts Scholarship; Spirit of Junior Miss Scholarship.

Walter Cunningham: Cardinal Bernardin Scholarship to University of South Carolina.

Katie Dunne: Belmont Abbey College Scholarship.

Nathan Foster: Faculty Honors Scholarship and Spring Hill Room Award to Spring Hill College; Alumni Scholarship and Mars Hill College Scholarship to Mars Hill College.

Michael Gallagher: Rochester Institute of Technology Presidential Scholarship and Marshall Hall Engineering Scholarship to Virginia Tech.

Kristen Michelle Good: Scott Ellis Scholarship to Campbell University.

Thomas Gooley: Belmont Abbey College Grant.

Angela Goymerac: Academic Scholarship to Appalachian State University.

Whitney Hahn: President's Scholarship to University of Dayton.

Julia Harding: 2003 Thomas J. Watson Memorial Scholarship; Boston College Scholarship.

Andrew Harris: Emerging Leader Scholarship to Virginia Tech.

Rachel Hoffman: Stonehill Honors Scholarship to Stonehill College.

Sarah Immel: McKissick Scholarship to University of South Carolina.

Elizabeth Johnson: Ignatius Academic Distinction Scholarship to Marquette University.

Paul Kelley: Presidential Scholarship and Honors Fellows Scholarship to Elon University.

Andrew Kelso: Patrick Henry Scholar at Hampden-Sydney College.

Neil Machovec: McKissick Scholarship to University of South Carolina.

Dean Mason: President's Scholarship to University of Dayton.

Kathryn McCullough: McKissick Scholarship to University of South Carolina.

Scott Medeiros: Embry-Riddle Scholarship to Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University.

Stephan Meloy: Barry Scholarship to Barry University; University of San Diego

Scholarship.

John Perrine: Belmont Abbey College Grant.

Laura Piraino: Presidential Scholarship to Elon University.

Senior Ryan Portal: Presidential Scholarship to Elon University.

Johanna Richards: Presidential Scholarship to Elon University.

Christina Strauch: Presidential Scholarship to Elon University; Nelson & Leigh Eddy Scholarship and Carolina Computing Initiative Laptop Grant to University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Senior Elizabeth Thomas: Howard Hanson Scholarship to Eastman School of Music; Ruth McKaughan & W. Bryan Carter Scholarship to University of North Carolina at Greensboro; Catholic University of America Scholarship; Leadership Award and Parish Scholarship to CUA; University Out of State Scholarship to University of Cincinnati.

Courtney Tighe: Founder Scholarship and Achiever Scholarship to Furman University.

John Tomsyck: Department of Chemistry Scholarship to Virginia Military Institute.

Michael Toomey: Institutional Scholarship to Lees-McRae College.

Mary Beth Usher: 2003 Board of Directors Scholarship from the Girl Scouts.

Ryan Vargochik: Philip H. Prince Alumni Scholarship to Clemson University; Student Athlete of the Month Scholarship from Hood Hargett Breakfast Club; University of Georgia Charter Scholarship.

Kelsey Walker: Creative and Performing Arts Scholarship to University of Maryland.

Dana Weis: Belmont Abbey College Scholarship; Baldwin Scholarship to Mary Baldwin College; President's Scholarship to University of Dayton; Trustee Scholarship to Lynchburg College.

Kelly Whittaker: McKissick Scholarship to University of South Carolina.

### Other awards and distinctions

Melissa Brzycki achieved a perfect score on the 2003 National Latin Exam. Only 1,693 students out of 127,000 participants in the entire United States, Australia, Switzerland, Canada, England, Italy, Japan, New Zealand, the Republic of Niger and Zimbabwe attained this distinction.

Jennifer Romano was selected to receive the North Carolina Teaching Fellows Award. Romano is one of 400 individuals entering college in the fall of 2003 as part of the 17th class of North Carolina Teaching Fellows.

Michael Stuart has been appointed to attend the United States Merchant Marine Academy.

## Bishop McGuinness scholarship, awards winners

KERNERSVILLE — Bishop McGuinness Catholic High graduating seniors won an array of scholarships. They are:

Andrew Achter: Belmont Abbey College Scholarship; Lighthouse Project.

Emily Adkisson: Honors Scholarship to Guilford College; Dean's Award to Guilford College; National Merit Award to University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Melanie Ange: Mars Hill College Scholarship.

Katie Beier: Trustee Scholarship to Queens University.

Nicole Denman: Athletic Scholarship to Campbell University.

Garrett Derhofer: Catholic/Academic/Leadership Award to St. Vincent's College.

Sandra Dube: Corporate National Merit Scholarship from R.J. Reynolds.

Vuk Guberinic: Greensboro College Scholarship.

Mary Catherine Haarsgaard: Academic Scholarship to Campbell University.

Megan Harless: Corporate National Merit Scholarship from R.J. Reynolds.

Carter Higgins: Presidential Scholarship to Elon University.

Adrienne Hopson: Johnson and Wales University Scholarship; Leadership Scholarship.

Annie Huffinan: Le Man's Award to St. Mary's College.

Liz Lee: Corporate National Merit Scholarship from R.J. Reynolds.

William Means: Dean's Scholarship to Hampden-Sydney College.

Mary Nitz: Scott-Ellis Scholarship to Campbell University; Campbell University Administrative Scholarship; Athletic Scholarship to Campbell University; Academic Scholarship to Campbell University.

Janell Short: Artistic Honors Scholarship to Savannah College of Art and Design.

Parker Sloan: Brevard College Schol-

arship; Scout Leadership Award.

Lasanio Small: U.S. Naval Academy Scholarship.

Heather Teague: Music Scholarship to Greensboro College.

Lisa Villegas: Greensboro College Art Scholarship; Greensboro College Scholarship of Recognition; High Point University Academic Incentive Scholarship.

### Bishop McGuinness Scholars Seal winners

WINSTON-SALEM — Several graduating seniors at Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School received North Carolina Scholars Seals with their diplomas May 31.

The North Carolina Scholars Seal recognizes students who complete the requirements for an academically challenging high school program. Students must have an overall four-year average of a "B."

A seal of recognition was attached to the diplomas of the following graduates:

Andrew Evan Achter; Emily Michelle Adkisson; Joshua R. Beck; Katherine Genevieve Beier; Trevor Francis Booth; Gregory William Ceneviva; Anthony Ross Cunnings; Garrett Nicholas Derhofer; Charles Henry Desch IV; Keli Marie Doub; Sandra Lynn Dube; Christopher Ryan Eklund; Alexander John Eiff; Jeanne Marie Geraghty; Suzanne Elizabeth Grant; Julie Ellen Gross; Mary Catherine Haarsgaard; Megan Patricia Harless; Carter Hawthorne Higgins; Aubry Janel Hildebrandt; Ann Marie Huffinan; Kelly Michelle Hutcherson; Carine Lucia Kelleher; Kathryn Amanda Kemp; Matthew David Kornegay; Sarah Elizabeth Lee; Katherine Michelle Luckhart; Michael Patrick Maloney; Lauren Elise McAleer; Hilary Joan McIntosh; Allison Talley McNamara; William Elbert Means; ason Benjamin Moore; Mary Anthony Nitz; Michael Joseph Ruggieri; Elizabeth Lenore Simmons; Brian Edward Sopp; Antonio Xavier Thigpen Jr.; Brian Charlton Trenor; Brian Christopher Ware.

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# Spirit Ninjas reveal power through their service to those in need

By STEVE EUVINO  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

SCHERERVILLE, Ind. — Carol Keyl's yard was invaded recently by ninjas. Spirit Ninjas, dressed all in black and armed with rakes, took the widow's backyard to task.

Keyl's husband, who loved to work in the yard, had died nine months earlier. Unable to handle the large yard herself and with grandchildren too young for the work, she heard about the Spirit Ninjas and made a phone call.

The Spirit Ninjas came from the youth group at St. Michael Church in Schererville, started in the summer of 2001 and now under the direction of Tim Pawl and Adam Niebling.

Last summer five of the 20 members attended World Youth Day in Toronto, at which time Pawl conceived the Spirit Ninjas, according to Brian Dolder, one of the ninja leaders.

"He thought it would be cool to dress as ninjas and rake random leaves in the middle of the night," said Dolder, 17, a junior at Andrean High School.

There were, however, some practical concerns: raking at night, lack of costumes, the police and unsuspecting homeowners, and possible negative Asian stereotypes.

"Eventually we came up with the name Spirit Ninjas — ninjas as of the Holy Spirit," Dolder told the Northwest Indiana Catholic, newspaper of the Gary Diocese, in an interview. "Cheesy, but it has the mysterious touch to it."

"The Holy Spirit is the one who gives us the gifts, the fruits of the Spirit, and we're using them," Pawl said. "The word ninjas just adds a little mystery."

The ninjas raked yards of people they knew who wouldn't expect the work done, leaving behind a calling card: "You have been raked by the Spirit Ninjas."

"Our labor is intended to help the elderly or disabled and is not limited to raking leaves," Dolder said. "My hope is



CNS PHOTO BY KAREN CALLAWAY, NORTHWEST INDIANA CATHOLIC

## No task too small for black-clad Spirit Ninjas

The Spirit Ninjas of St. Michael Church in Schererville, Ind., pose with the tools of their trade in a parishioner's yard May 3. Clockwise from front center are Adam Niebling, Jeff Dolder, Tim Pawl, Rachel Duerr and Brian Dolder. They offer their volunteer services — from yard work to washing dishes — to members of their parish who need a little help with things at home.

to get a call or two from a local charity that needs some young helpers."

While raking seems their forte, it is not the ninjas' only skill. Watching the group at work, Keyl had questions about other work around her home and yard.

"Raking, snow shoveling, even dishes washed — I'd be able to do it," Pawl said. "Anything to help someone who can't help themselves."

Service is free. Donations go to the youth group fund.

"Things are really close," said Jeff Dolder, 16, younger brother of Brian. "We're all good friends, and it's cool to have older people and others close to our age who are religious — and the fact that we're helping people."

"It's a lot more fun when you're doing it with friends," Brian Dolder said. "Plus, it's a chance to do charity work."

"It's one thing to have faith in an

armchair," Niebling said. "It's another thing to act it out."

Niebling, 22, studies radio and television at Purdue University Calumet. Pawl, 22, studying theology and philosophy at Valparaiso University, will do postgraduate work at St. Louis University.

"The most important thing is that we're helping people when we're able," Niebling said.

The ninjas aren't all male. Spirit Ninja Rachel Duerr, 16, met the St. Michael group at World Youth Day. Involved with LifeTeens at her parish, St. John the Evangelist, she said she likes the idea of helping others while hanging out with friends.

Anyone can join, Brian Dolder said, or start Spirit Ninjas branches in their area.

"It would be great to spread the Spirit Ninjas all over," he said.

## RUDOLPH, from page 1

being brought to justice," said a statement issued June 2 by Cathleen Cleaver, director of planning and information for the Secretariat for Pro-life Activities of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. "Every human life has inestimable value and no one has the right to kill."

Rudolph was arrested in Murphy, N.C., May 31 by a police officer who spotted him rooting through garbage cans behind a store. He faces up to 20 state and federal charges from attacks including the bombing of two abortion clinics and a bomb explosion at the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta that killed one woman and injured more than 100 people.

One of the clinic attacks in Birmingham, Ala., killed an off-duty police officer. The other caused injuries at an Atlanta clinic. Rudolph also is a suspect in an attack on a gay nightclub in Atlanta.

Cleaver said even the violence of abortion does not justify further use of violence.

"While we condemn every one of the attacks allegedly committed by Rudolph, we in particular condemn the use of violence to oppose abortion," she said. "The violence of killing in the name of pro-life makes a mockery of the pro-life cause. Just as we abhor the violence of abortion, we abhor violence as a means to stop abortion."

She said people who are in the mainstream of promoting a culture of life "acknowledge with deep regret how the deplorable actions of a very few can stigmatize the pro-life cause in the eyes of many."

"Any act of violence committed in the name of pro-life, does not advance the cause of the pro-life movement," said Maggi Nadol, Respect Life coordinator for the Diocese of Charlotte. "It is a contradiction for all who believe in the sanctity of life."

Editor Kevin E. Murray contributed to this story.

TOO BUSY FOR ONE LAST KISS? DO YOU EVER FORGET TO KISS YOUR LOVED ONES AS YOU SAY YOUR DAILY "GOOD-BYES"? HOW DEVASTATED WOULD YOU BE IF YOU MISSED YOUR LAST CHANCE TO KISS THAT PERSON WHO MIGHT BE GONE FOREVER?

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# Three men ordained to priesthood

*Bishop calls on priests to be saints, heroes*

By KEVIN E. MURRAY  
EDITOR

CHARLOTTE — In a passionate message to three candidates for the priesthood, as well as to all priests in attendance, Bishop William G. Curlin stressed the importance of being holy priests.

Before a church packed with clergy, religious, seminarians and the three candidates' families, Bishop Curlin, bishop emeritus, proudly welcomed Matthew Ryan Beuttner, Julio Cesar Dominguez and Jose Enrique Gonzalez-Gaytan as the diocese's newest priests during a two-hour Mass at St. John Neumann Church June 7.

"What a joyful time for the church in Charlotte, what a joyful time for the church universal to have three new men stepping forward to become priests," said Bishop Curlin. "Today you three men are joining a fraternity of priestly brothers. You should look to them and they should be able to offer the best of example."

In his homily, the bishop warned that in today's perilous times, God's people are looking to the church and their spiritual leaders for peace and hope.

"They look to us to lift their hearts in a world that presses their hearts down with so many burdens and uncountable fears," he said. "They're looking to us, as priests, to prove the Gospel has value in their lives."

Acknowledging the many crises in today's world — financial, violence, warfare and other failures that strike at the heart of mankind — Bishop Curlin challenged the newly ordained to address these crises by fulfilling their calls to be holy priests with their hearts centered on Jesus in their ministry. He told them to base their lives in prayer and to reflect Jesus to those around them.

"Make prayer the breath of your priesthood," he said. "Today, my brothers, I beg you ... be good shepherds. Be men of the church. God's people are nourished by the transparency of the priest's faith and the Eucharist. It's not showmanship; it's about faith revealed in the way we celebrate the living Christ. Realize the presence of God in everything you do."

The bishop said the church needs heroes.

"For me, priests have always been the greatest heroes in my life — men of charity, love and devotion who have sacrificed themselves totally for the love of Jesus Christ and the salvation of souls," he said. "They were truly, in my

judgment, priestly priests. And that's what our Holy Father is calling us to be."

He encouraged them to be "men of the Eucharist," for "the Eucharist is the heartbeat of the priesthood." He also stressed the importance of being "men of the church today."

"Don't listen to gurus on extreme sides who will lead you from Jesus," said Bishop Curlin. "Be faithful to our Holy Father and his teachings. And love your brother priests."

Concelebrants to the Mass included Msgr. Mauricio W. West, diocesan administrator; Abbot Placid Solari, O.S.B., abbot of Belmont Abbey; Augustinian Father Thomas Meehan, pastor of St. John Neumann Church; Father John Allen, diocesan vocations director; and other priests serving in the Diocese of Charlotte.

During the rite of Ordination, the candidates confirmed their promises to fulfill the office of priesthood. Kneeling, each man placed his hands between Bishop Curlin's hands in a promise of obedience to the diocese.

The congregation was invited to join in prayer for the candidates, the church and its people as the candidates lay prostrate.

During the rite's most solemn moment, the candidates knelt in silence before Bishop Curlin, who laid his hands on their heads. The celebration of the sacrament of holy orders was completed as the bishop extended his hands over the kneeling candidates and prayed the prayer of consecration.

The new priests were vested with a stole and a chasuble — outer garments of the priestly office. The bishop anointed their hands with sacred chrism and they were then presented with a chalice and paten signifying their roles as celebrants of the Eucharist.

The newly ordained Father Beuttner, Father Dominguez and Father Gonzalez-Gaytan then joined their brother priests to concelebrate the Mass, thus opening new chapters in their lives.

"If you are one with Christ, every day will be a beautiful experience in the priesthood," said Bishop Curlin. "Touch the depths of Christ in you, and that will be transparent, and that will sanctify your people and your ministry."

Contact Editor Kevin E. Murray by calling (704) 370-3334 or e-mail [kemurray@charlottediocese.org](mailto:kemurray@charlottediocese.org).



PHOTOS BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

Top Left: Fathers Matthew Buettner, Julio Dominguez and Enrique Gonzalez-Gaytan review their ordination certificates. Top right: Julio Dominguez places his hands in Bishop William G. Curlin's hands. Above: The ordinands lay prostrate during the service.

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# New priests find calling in Diocese of Charlotte

By KEVIN E. MURRAY  
EDITOR

CHARLOTTE — While hailing from diverse backgrounds, three new priests are eager to find common ground bringing God to the people of the Diocese of Charlotte.

## Matthew Ryan Beuttner

Father Matthew Beuttner had been looking forward to his June 7 ordination.

"It's time. I'm ready," he said in a pre-ordination interview with *The Catholic News & Herald*.

Father Beuttner, who grew up in a faithful Catholic household in Peoria, Ill., studied at St. Charles Borromeo Seminary near Philadelphia. He said it was priests he had known who inspired him as a youth.

"Their faithfulness, their love of Christ and their personal relationship with him were evident in the ways they interacted with others," said Beuttner. "Their holiness and their joy really drew me."

His "first real spiritual experience," he said, was during a weekend teen retreat in 1994, which focused on the death, resurrection and everlasting ministry of Jesus. Later, in community college, he realized he wanted something more and decided to begin preparations for the priesthood in a college seminary.

Seven years later, Father Beuttner — now 27 years old — has achieved his master's degree in divinity and is looking forward to continuing as a priest in the diocese.

He believes working in western North Carolina, a state with approximately 140,000 registered Catholics, will provide "opportunities to really get to know my faith, have a stronger relationship with the Lord and be more grounded in the Catholic Church and its traditions."

"I hope to be an example of a faithful priest, one who is trustful, joyful and a good example to others," said Father Beuttner. "I will give myself completely to the church and to the people of the Diocese of Charlotte."

## Julio Cesar Dominguez

Father Julio Dominguez was born in the city of Panuco, located in Veracruz, Mexico, where he described receiving a "good Christian education," to whom he credits his mother and the Missionaries of Christ.

"Everyone has a vocation, and I answered my call because I wanted to serve the people," said Father Dominguez, 31, before his June 7 ordination. "The further development of my spiritual life attracted me to the priesthood."

"My greatest satisfaction in life is to feel continuously called by God to the priesthood, a calling that I sincerely find difficult to put into words," he said.

Father Dominguez said he felt called at age 18 to enter the religious life with the Missionaries of Christ. Ten years later, he desired to serve people more closely and he came to North Carolina to work and raise money for his priestly formation in Mexico. Within three months, he met Father John Allen, vocations director and then-pastor of St. Michael Church in Gastonia.

"Father Allen then explained to me that the diocese had a great need for priests to work with the Hispanic people," said Father Dominguez. "He invited me to visit several parishes, and I saw that there was a necessity to work with the Hispanic people in this area."

Father Dominguez worked at St. Michael and Holy Family Church in Clemmons before returning to St. Charles Borromeo to complete his training; he has also studied in Rome.

Father Dominguez, who has family and friends in the Diocese of Charlotte, said he looks forward to serving all the people of the diocese.

"I think that it is the will of God for me to work here," he said.

## Jose Enrique Gonzalez-Gaytan

Father Enrique Gonzalez-Gaytan, 37, is originally from Mexico but completed his work at St. Charles Borromeo Seminary in May and continued studying English in a specialized program in the fall.

He has served at St. Charles Borromeo Church in Morganton, St. Leo the Great Church in Winston-Salem and Our Lady of the Americas Church in Biscoe.

He was recently in South America and eagerly returned to the Diocese of Charlotte for his June 7 ordination. Like Father Dominguez, he has family and friends in the diocese.

Contact Editor Kevin E. Murray by calling (704) 370-3334 or e-mail [kemurray@charlottediocese.org](mailto:kemurray@charlottediocese.org).



PHOTOS BY KAREN A. EVANS

Left: Father Dominguez lays hands on Bishop Curlin.

Above: Father Beuttner receives a chalice from Bishop Curlin.

Below: Priests lay hands on the ordinands.

Note to Readers: More photos available online at [www.charlottediocese.org/catholicnews.html](http://www.charlottediocese.org/catholicnews.html)



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## SACRAMENTAL LIFE

## Vocation: A calling to serve God and others

By KEVIN E. MURRAY  
EDITOR

*Editor's Note: This is the second part in a series on the seven sacraments.*

CHARLOTTE — Everyday, Catholics live their chosen vocations, whether it's to their careers, marriages or to helping others.

"In my words, a vocation is a way of life," said Father Andrew Latsko, pastor of St. Margaret Mary Church in Swannanoa.

Father Latsko is retiring next month after 11 years in the priesthood and 33 years at Westinghouse Corporation. "Somehow, you know you're in the right place and the right time in your life," he said.

"Everyone has a vocation," said Michael Eades, a seminarian for the Diocese of Charlotte. "Some are called to marriage, and through marriage they will reach heaven. God chooses certain people for a celibate vocation for their salvation. For others, they are called to serve God and that is their plan to get to heaven."

A vocation to religious life is "more than an urging or feeling, more than an occupation," said Msgr. Joseph Kerin, pastor of St. Mark Church in Huntersville, who is also retiring after 46 years in the priesthood.

"I consider a vocation a calling for a total dedication to God in the service of the church," he said.

### Answering the call

"Though motivating factors vary, most men and women considering a vocation do share a few common goals," said Jesuit Father Peter Etzel, vocations director for the Jesuit's Wisconsin Providence.

Typically, he said, they seek to be of service to the community at large, be part of a smaller community with similar values and faith, and have a deeper relationship with God.

"One of the non-negotiables for religious life is that the man or woman put other people at the forefront of their lives," said Father Etzel. "To be a religious is not about having a career in the normal sense of the word. It isn't about prestige and status and gathering things. It is about love for God and for people, and how one can best respond to God's love in service to others."

Because of these reasons, significant discernment time is very important, said Father Etzel.

"I am suspicious of the radical conversion and the clear-cut call from God," he said. "It's important to explore the nature of the conversion and see how it plays out in a person's life. We ask 'what is the fruit of the conversion? How does one, over time, become more directly involved with God and with others?'"

"Some (people) have radical conversion stories. But by-and-large, it's a matter of coming to a decision more slowly than not," said School Sister of Notre Dame Catherine Bertrand, executive director of the Chicago-based National Religious Vocations Conference.

She said candidates often are influenced by their respect for a priest, brother or sister, but it's no longer typical that youth emerge from high school with a

calling to the priesthood or religious life resonating in their hearts.

"This may have been common years ago, but is the exception today," said Capuchin Father Kraus, vocation director for the Capuchin Province of Mid-America. "I find the typical young person is still trying to find out what to do with their life and talents. They're still asking: 'What is my life all about and how do I fit into this world?'"

"Older candidates often experience disillusionment with the everyday world and an emptiness in their work and career," said Father Kraus.

Sometimes, however, they're fortunate enough to look to the church for "how to do something more fulfilling with their lives by reaching out to others," he said.

Msgr. Kerin indicated he spent several years after college considering the priesthood before opting to join the seminary. "I thought I wanted to go to law school, but I realized I was running from it (my vocation)."

### The few, the proud

The recent deployment of Catholic priests as military chaplains for the war in Iraq has put further strain on the already well-documented shortage of priests available to serve in U.S. parishes.

But the military chaplaincy is still short Catholic priests. Of the military's 3,035 chaplains, only 367 are Catholic, though there are more than 1.5 million Catholics in the populations chaplains serve: members of the armed forces, military families, veterans' medical centers and overseas federal agencies.

Except for evangelicals, most traditional faiths are experiencing "severe shortages in the military chaplaincy for the first time in many years," according to Archbishop Edwin F. O'Brien of the U.S. Archdiocese for the Military Services.

"The larger cultural question is 'What is happening in traditional churches?' Our culture doesn't reach permanent commitments too easily, quickly ... or early," especially with regard to vocations, he said.

The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCC) recently published a pastoral plan to boost vocations to the ordained ministry and consecrated life in North America, giving priority to the "preferential option for the young."

The 136-page document, "Conversion, Discernment and Mission: A Practical Guide for Fostering a Vocations Culture in North America," was the result of the Third Continental Congress on Vocations, held in Montreal in April 2002 and attended by 1,200 people, including church leaders from across Canada and the United States.

The plan, published by the CCCC, was issued jointly by the Canadian and U.S. bishops' conferences. The CCCC said the plan is "a reflection and a guide for practical action, proposing strategies and answers to the question, 'How do we create and establish a vocations culture throughout the church in North America?'"

The plan lists practical suggestions for bishops and community leaders of institutes for consecrated life, as well as members of the clergy and religious, parents and many others in the Christian community.

May 11 was the 10th World Day of

Prayer for Vocations, on which Pope John Paul II ordained 31 new priests and urged them to model their lives on Christ, the good shepherd.

"The priest, called in a special way to aim for holiness, is for the whole Christian people the witness of Christ's love and joy," the pope said during the Mass in St. Peter's Basilica.

### Discerning a vocation

Sister Bertrand cautions that a religious life is not for those who lack love or other options in their lives.

"It's for people who have other options, people who are excited about life and

excited about serving others," she said.

Understanding one's vocation comes through listening for the call not with ears, but with the heart, said Father Kraus.

To better hear the heart, Father Etzel offers a series of questions upon which to reflect: Where does my heart come to life? What is it I value most? What are my deepest desires?

"It is at the core of our being, deep within our hearts that God invites us," said Father Etzel.

*Catholic News Service and Phillip Nero's article, "The Vocation Question: Answered in the Heart," contributed to this story.*

Contact Editor Kevin E. Murray by calling (704) 370-3334 or e-mail [kemurray@charlottediocese.org](mailto:kemurray@charlottediocese.org).

### Celebrating 40 years in the priesthood



PHOTOS BY ELLEN N. SIGMON

Above: Father Ed Sheridan receives gifts from St. Aloysius parishioners for his 40th ordination anniversary celebration May 24.



Left: "The Hermitage" cake.

## St. Aloysius parishioners give gift of grassy field

BY ELLEN NEERINCX SIGMON  
CORRESPONDENT

HICKORY — St. Aloysius Church parishioners celebrated the May 24-25 weekend Masses as Masses of Thanksgiving for Father Ed Sheridan's 40th ordination anniversary to the priesthood. They also presented personal gifts to him at the crowded Saturday evening Mass.

Gigi Frailey, pastoral coordinator, referred to Matthew 13:23 during the Mass: "And the seed sown in rich soil is someone who hears the word and understands it; this is the one who yields a harvest and produces now a hundredfold...." Frailey then presented the primary gift from the parish — a "grassy field."

Father Sheridan owns several acres of land near the Catholic Conference Center and a home on it named "The Hermitage." He recently had nine acres of trees removed from the land because of a pine beetle infestation, leaving what Frailey called "a mess."

The parish gave him \$25,000 to have the land cleared and reseeded. Frailey said that there was also enough money collected from parishioners for Father Sheridan to have The Hermitage's kitchen renovated. In addition, the parish presented him with a woods-finishing mower for his tractor, and a wooden garden bench, table and chairs.

Msgr. Bill Pharr, a friend of Father Sheridan for about 45 years, gave the homily at the Mass and talked about the many parishes and posts in which Father Sheridan had faithfully served during his 40 years as a priest in North Carolina.

"Father Ed has been persistent and consistent in the goal he set himself — just to be a good priest," he said.

The parish hosted receptions after each Mass during the weekend, and many of Father Sheridan's family members and former parishioners came to take part in the celebrations.



# Retiring, but not retired

*Two priests plan to remain active in retirement*

By KEVIN E. MURRAY

EDITOR

CHARLOTTE — Two diocesan priests will be retiring next month, but both Msgr. Joseph Kerin and Father Andrew Latsko plan to keep busy with their ministries.

Msgr. Kerin, 71, is pastor of St. Mark Church in Huntersville, one of the fastest-growing churches in the state.

"I'm not anxious to leave the parish, but I feel it's a good time for a new priest to come in and help lead them on," he said.

Born in Scarsdale, N.Y., Msgr. Kerin graduated from Niagara University in 1953 with a degree in business administration with an emphasis in management and accounting. After graduation, he began theological studies at Catholic University in Washington, D.C., and was ordained a priest May 30, 1957 in Wilmington, N.C.

"I've been serving Catholics in North Carolina ever since," said Msgr. Kerin. "I was originally attracted to the missionary character of the state and the scarcity of Catholics at the time. I remember hearing



Msgr. Joseph Kerin

Bishop Waters of Raleigh say that there were less Catholics in North Carolina than in most foreign missions, less than 7/10ths of one percent."

Msgr. Kerin found his challenge. Since 1957, he has worked with Catholics throughout the state including heading a mission in Boone; as a teacher and a principal at Asheville Catholic High School; as



Father Andrew Latsko

pastor of St. John the Baptist Church in Tryon, Our Lady of the Assumption Church in Charlotte and Our Lady of Mercy Church in Winston-Salem; and as rector of St. Patrick Cathedral in Charlotte. He also participated in a special project on behalf of the Diocese of Charlotte in Mexico City for nearly three years, and was Chancellor of the Diocese of Charlotte for seven years.

St. Mark is Msgr. Kerin's second start-up parish. He also oversaw the beginnings of St. Matthew in Charlotte

from 1986 until 1996.

"I have had tremendous variety in my career, which has constantly given me energy," he said. "It has helped me to serve with renewed zeal and vigor."

Among his fondest memories are seeing others grow in their faith, he said. And, "It's a wonderful feeling that I can go just about anywhere in North Carolina and bump into someone I've had contact with in some way or another — a student I've taught, a child I've baptized."

Msgr. Kerin plans to take a month's vacation, then enroll in courses for computers and languages. "I expect to stay in pastoral work by offering services to other parishes with needs," he said.

Reflecting on his 46 years of serving North Carolina Catholics: "I've enjoyed every minute of it," he said. "I never had a moment's question in my mind about where I should be. I have been blessed by God in my work."

Father Latsko was born in western Pennsylvania, and moved to the Philadelphia area during World War II when he was about 12 years old. He described his priestly ministry as a "delayed vocation," having spent 33 years working for Westinghouse Corporation before being ordained in 1992.

"I was old enough for retirement when the plant closed," said Father Latsko.

Instead of retiring, he relocated to Westinghouse's Charlotte office, where he met the late Jesuit Father Gene McCreesh.

"He kept persuading me to join (the priesthood)," said Father Latsko, who did some discerning before deciding to attend the seminary. "God can touch you, and you never know when or where."

After ordination, Father Latsko served at St. Patrick Cathedral in Charlotte before becoming pastor of St. Margaret Mary in Swannanoa, where he emphasized service ministries and strengthened the training and implementation of parish lay ministers. Some of his fondest memories include being pastor, counseling others, visiting hospitals and working with the dying.

After retiring, he plans to relocate to the Pennyburn at Maryfield retirement community in High Point and continue offering his services to parishes around the Triad. "You never really retire from the priesthood," he said.

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## Book Review

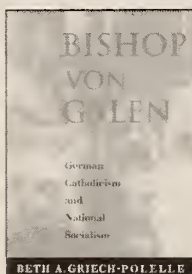
# Book explores German Catholicism during Nazi rule

REVIEWED BY JOHN H. CARROLL

CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

Cardinal Clemens August Graf von Galen (1878-1946), bishop of Muenster, symbolized German Catholic resistance to Adolf Hitler and Nazism prior to and during World War II. He was known as the "Lion of Muenster" for his courageous and outspoken opposition to the Nazi regime.

In "Bishop von Galen: German Catholicism and National Socialism," Beth A. Griech-Polelle presents a penetrating biography of this German hero, a portrait that is not entirely positive. She maintains that there was a deafening silence by the cardinal about certain aspects of Nazi racial programs.



"Bishop Von Galen: German Catholicism and National Socialism," by Beth A. Griech-Polelle. Yale University Press (New Haven, Conn., 2002). 259 pp., \$35.00.

The author makes much of the influence of the German Kulturkampf ("culture war") on Cardinal von Galen's formative years. In this period the Lutheran government of the Prussian Kaisers and Chancellor Bismarck in Berlin had restricted the activities of the Catholic Church in the German Reich, hence the Kulturkampf. As a result, the young von Galen received his higher education in Catholic institutions in Switzerland and Austria.

By the time of Cardinal von Galen's ordination in 1904 the Kulturkampf was a spent force, but the memory would have been fresh. During World War I he volunteered to serve as an army chaplain but his offer was refused due to the large number of clergy who joined the service. The author contends that in this wartime period, many German Catholics became ardent German nationalists "in order to prove that they could be just as loyal as German Protestants."

After World War I the future cardinal ministered to his people in Berlin. He maintained his stance as a German

Catholic Nationalist. The young priest admonished his flock to be steadfast in their faith in the face of economic difficulties and the frequent clashes between communist and Nazi storm troops.

In 1933 Hitler and the Nazis took power in Germany. Shortly thereafter the Vatican signed a concordat with the new German government to maintain a proper relationship between church and state.

The author notes that Cardinal von Galen's elevation to bishop of Muenster was the first appointment under the concordat; some of his flock looked upon their new bishop as a strong defender of the faith; others viewed him as sympathetic to the Nazis. As bishop, prior to and during World War II, Cardinal von Galen spoke out against the Nazi campaign against the church. Then in 1941 he condemned Nazi euthanasia projects. He also referred to Gestapo interrogation cellars and concentration camps, indicating an awareness of what was happening in these restricted areas. However, Griech-Polelle is critical of the bishop's silence on the fate of the Jews in Nazi-occupied Europe.

The biographer offers an observation on the connection between the earlier culture war against Catholicism and Cardinal von Galen's silence on the Holocaust. She writes: "It seems ludicrous to suggest that Catholics might suffer a similar fate as that of the Jews ... but I argue that the powerful effect of the Kulturkampf and the subsequent 'minority status' made many Catholics believe that they were close to being reclassified with Jews as being less-than-fully German. If they risked defending the Jewish community and appeared to be aligned with the Jews, they would be confirming their outside status and this was something most Catholics were not willing to confer on themselves a second time."

In December 1945, shortly after the end of the war, Pope Pius XII elevated the bishop to the College of Cardinals. Observers perceived this move as a reward for a bishop who had guided his flock through difficult times. Cardinal von Galen died in 1946, revered as the "Lion of Muenster." This biography provides an insight into the trials and tribulations of a great churchman in a frightful period of European history.

*Carroll is a retired government civil servant.*

## Word to Life

Sunday Scripture Readings:  
June 15, 2003

June 15, The Holy Trinity

### Cycle B Readings:

- 1) Deuteronomy 4:32-34, 39-40  
Psalm 33:4-6, 9, 18-20, 22
- 2) Romans 8:14-17
- 3) Gospel: Matthew 28:16-20

By JEAN DENTON  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

The confirmation Mass was over, and I asked Zac, one of the young people who had just entered full participation in the church, "Are you excited?" Unhesitatingly, he spread his arms wide and replied: "I am! I'm glad to finally be a real 'part of it.'"

I reminded him, "You know, though, this means you have to tend the vineyard. Now comes the work." He flashed a huge smile, and with his arms still out, he said, "Yes!"

Earlier in the day I had determined to pray, individually, for the 11 from our parish community who would be confirmed. I had been privileged to accompany them on a spiritual journey in preparation for this moment, and in prayer, seeing each one's unique gifts, I sensed some understanding of their different, but concerted, paths ahead.

They had been preparing to receive the fullness of the Spirit within and among them, but now they would take on their new role as full-fledged

disciples of Jesus. That role is stated in today's Gospel: "Go and make disciples of all nations." Where before I had prayed for them to be open to the Spirit, I now found myself seeing them in action.

Will they really be "part of it" — the mission of the church? I have no doubt. They will make disciples in the very way that the Spirit acts — through the special gifts God has placed in each one.

While Brian is likely to adventure out to make disciples among the poor and sick, Lauren and Zach will make disciples through community action and the written word. Jason will bring faith to the actions of "do-ers," but when it comes to the skeptical, that's where Mary will be making disciples. Zac will be a model of commitment and make disciples both in and outside the church. Emily and Kristin will make disciples among the little ones and families, and Gwen will bring compassion and understanding to make disciples of the lost and sorrowing. Tim will make disciples as he brings change to unjust situations, and Scott will make disciples simply because he wants to do as God calls.

The Gospel comes alive, yet again. Am I excited? Yes!

### Questions:

What are the unique gifts with which God has empowered you to go and make disciples? How has your relationship with Jesus strengthened you for the task?

## Weekly Scripture

### Scripture for the week of June 15 - June 21

Sunday (The Most Holy Trinity), Deuteronomy 4:32-34, 39-40, Romans 8:14-17, Matthew 28:16-20; Monday, 2 Corinthians 6:1-10, Matthew 5:38-42; Tuesday, 2 Corinthians 8:1-9, Matthew 5:43-48; Wednesday, 2 Corinthians 9:6-11, Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18; Thursday, 2 Corinthians 11:1-11, Matthew 6:7-15; Friday, 2 Corinthians 11:18, 21-30, Matthew 6:19-23; Saturday, 2 Corinthians 12:1-10, Matthew 6:24-34

### Scripture for the week of June 22 - June 28

Sunday (Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ), Exodus 24:3-8, Hebrews 9:11-15, Mark 14:12-16, 22-26; Monday, Genesis 12:1-9, Matthew 7:1-5; Tuesday (The Nativity of John the Baptist), Isaiah 49:1-6, Acts 13:22-26, Luke 1:57-66, 80; Wednesday, Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18, Matthew 7:15-20; Thursday, Genesis 16:1-12, Matthew 7:21-29; Friday (Most Sacred Heart of Jesus), Hosea 11:1, 3-4, 8-9, Ephesians 3:8-12, 14-19, John 19:31-37; Saturday (The Immaculate Heart of Mary), Genesis 18:1-15, Luke 2:41-51



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## 'Hulk' is bulky, violent film



CNS PHOTO FROM UNIVERSAL STUDIOS

The big green man is pursued by the military through San Francisco in "The Hulk," a sci-fi adventure about a mild-mannered scientist (Eric Bana) who, after being pelted with gamma rays, finds his anger transforms him into a giant monster. Sporadic mayhem, violence and destruction, some disturbing images, minimal crass language and profanity and a flash of rear nudity. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-III — adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13 — parents are strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.

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## 'Nemo' is worth finding

*Film offers enchanting tale, dazzling animation*

By DAVID DiCERTO  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

NEW YORK (CNS) — A timid tropical fish embarks on a harrowing journey across vast stretches of treacherous ocean to rescue his lost son in the delightful animated adventure "Finding Nemo" (Disney).

With beautiful underwater landscapes and a solid cast lending their voices, director Andrew Stanton creates an enchanting fable about courage, self-sacrifice and the power of love to overcome insurmountable odds.

Marlin (voice of Albert Brooks) is an overly protective clown fish trying his best to raise his only son, Nemo (voice of Alexander Gould), in the relative safety of Australia's Great Barrier Reef. But even the security of their plush sea anemone home is not without hazards — a reality Marlin is all too mindful of, having lost Nemo's mother and siblings to a coral predator.

On the first day of school, Nemo finds himself the brunt of classmates' jokes. Egged on by dares and desperate to be accepted, Nemo swims beyond the reef's "drop-off," and out to the open sea to investigate a boat. Before Marlin can reel him in, Nemo is netted by a scuba diver and motored off, leaving Marlin helpless in the boat's wake.

Befriended by an absent-minded fish, Dory (voice of Ellen DeGeneres), the skittish Marlin takes off into the unknown in search of his son.

Nemo lands in a fish tank in a dentist's office overlooking Sydney's harbor, populated by an assortment of kooky tropical fish including the gang's scarred leader, Gill (voice of Willem Dafoe). Nemo has been marked as a birthday present for the dentist's niece, which sparks Gill to plot a daring escape.

Meanwhile, Marlin and Dory continue their odyssey, with menacing sharks, ravenous gulls, forests of deadly jellyfish and other dangers of the deep standing — or swimming — in their way.

The film's real scene-stealers are the trio of bumbling sharks (voices of Barry Humphries, Eric Bana and Bruce Spence), who have formed a 12-step program aimed at changing their image as mindless eating machines to friendly ocean neighbors. Though the toothy critters supply the biggest guffaws, their gaping jaws may prove scary, especially for young children.

The sequence which finds Marlin and Dory literally making a leap of faith inside a whale echoes the biblical story of Jonah — as well as the Disney classic "Pinocchio" — hinting at the necessity of surrendering to the will of God in times of despair.

In the absence of a traditional Disney villain, the ocean itself takes on a pivotal role, offering both breathtaking beauty and unfathomable danger.

"Finding Nemo" elevates computer animation to a new level of fluidity, improving on past Pixar offerings like "Toy Story" and "Monsters Inc." The underwater environments created are visually stunning, ranging from the richly textured color-gardens of the Great Barrier Reef to the more muted, almost impressionistic, palette of the ocean expanses.

Audiences will find it hard not to applaud this whale of a tale.

The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-I — general patronage. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is G — general audiences.

*DiCerto is on the staff of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Office for Film and Broadcasting.*



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## The Pope Speaks

POPE JOHN PAUL II

### At audience, pope thanks God for 'opening roads of the world' to him

By JOHN NORTON  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — Pope John Paul II, history's most-traveled pontiff, said he thanked God for "opening the roads of the world" to him so he could carry the Gospel message to communities around the globe.

The pope made his remarks at his June 11 general audience at the Vatican, two days after he returned from Croatia, the 100th foreign trip of his 24-year pontificate.

"From the depths of my heart, I greatly thank the Lord, who a hundred times has opened the streets of the world and of nations so that I can render testimony to him," the pope said.

The 83-year-old pontiff looked tired at the start of the audience, held under a beating sun in St. Peter's Square. But he perked up as time went on and drew enthusiastic cheers from a youth group when he briefly departed from his prepared text to address them with a broad smile and a tiny wave of his hand.

The pope dedicated his remarks to retracing his steps June 5-9 in Croatia, a largely Catholic Balkans country that he said "will always have a special place in my heart and in my prayers." Croatia is the second-most-Catholic Slavic country in terms of percentage of population trailing the pope's native Poland and similarly suffered decades of communist persecution.

The pope said the visit, his third to Croatia in less than a decade, allowed him to see again how much Christianity has contributed to Croatia's artistic, cultural and spiritual development.

"It is on this solid foundation that now, at the start of the third millennium, the dear Croatian nation can continue to build its cohesion and stability to integrate harmoniously into the consortium of European peoples," he said. Croatia earlier this year officially asked to join the European Union and the pope offered support for its bid during his trip.

The pope said he returned to Croatia to encourage its 3.8 million Catholics, about 81 percent of the population, to persevere in their faith and to "bring to all a message of peace and reconciliation" after the country's bloody 1990s' war for independence from then-Yugoslavia.

The pope said that in Osijek, a far-eastern Croatian city that saw some of the war's fiercest ethnic fighting and where he celebrated Mass for 200,000 pilgrims, he wanted to underscore the Second Vatican Council's emphasis on the call of lay people to be holy.

"Only those who are animated by robust faith and generous love can be apostles of reconciliation and moral reconstruction in areas where the wounds of a painful and difficult past remain open," he said.

The pope also noted that during a June 8 Pentecost Sunday Mass in the northern city of Rijeka, he invoked an outpouring of the Holy Spirit on families in Croatia and around the world and called for pro-family social measures to reflect "the primary social value of the family institution."

### A farewell column

I have news, and I'll just put it short and sweet: It's time for me to say goodbye to this column.

A while back I was given the wonderful opportunity to start writing this column for Catholic youth and people who love them. I don't remember the year, but I remember what life was like for me then:

—I had two boys, both creeping close to adolescence, and a little, toddling girl. I was teaching religion in a Catholic high school. I was then, and for years afterward, immersed in teen culture, life and concerns.

Well, life goes on. My kids are much older. I left teaching five years ago to write full time, and I'm simply not as clued in to what you guys are thinking, worrying and laughing about on a daily basis as I used to be. I decided it is time to hand the reins over to someone who is. I'll miss contributing, but I'm confident that whoever takes over will give the fresh insights you need and deserve.

And never fear, the books I've written for teens — the "Prove It!" series that answers teens' most common and pressing questions about God, church, prayer and Jesus — are out there, published by Our Sunday Visitor Press.

A priest once told me that all preachers have basically one homily that they give over and over in different forms. He meant that every preacher has a central concern that grips him and won't let him go, a particular angle on faith, and if you listen carefully over time you can usually figure out what it is.

If you've been reading me for more than a year, you've probably figured out I'm the same way. I can't put it in one sentence, but I have a set of themes I come back to, not because I'm unimaginative but because I think this is the most pressing message teens need to hear.

Here's what I've been trying to tell you for a decade or more:

—God loves you, really loves you. You are absolutely not an accident. God created you — the specific

## Coming of Age

AMY WELBORN  
CNS COLUMNIST



you, with a face and a name — completely and totally on purpose for one reason: He wants you to exist.

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You know how to look at your Catholic faith and what it teaches you. It's not a bunch of rules dreamed up to make you miserable. It's the concrete expression of God's love for you as he gives you the chance to be close to him through prayer and sacraments, as he reveals to you the way to live that's going to bring you peace and joy. It's about freedom — freedom to be who God created you to be rather than a captive to what the world says you should be. •

You know that you are not, and never will be alone. So have hope and take heart. Live joyfully and freely in God's love for you. It really and truly is what he wants. Can you believe it?

## Guest Column



JOSEPH PURRELLO  
DIRECTOR OF  
OFFICE OF JUSTICE AND PEACE,  
CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES

### On budgets, taxes, lotteries and promises

(Part II of "Seeking moral clarity on gambling")

With North Carolina facing another year of revenue shortfalls, the ax may once again cut social service programs. Catholic Social Teaching says common good concerns and society's most vulnerable members should be at the forefront of policy considerations. Discussions on budgets, taxes and lotteries require reflection on their impact on children, families, and those who are poor.

The state must operate each year with a balanced budget - no deficits are permitted. Many legislators have promised not to raise taxes and simply will not consider this option. Even giving support to tax increases on cigarettes and alcohol is withheld by those who desire to keep "no new taxes" promises. Regardless of promises made or not made, many legislators simply view taxes as already too high, something to be cut and not increased.

The lesson offered by President Bush (senior) has not been forgotten by politicians. In 1988 he promised "no new taxes," then in 1990 he signed into law a tax increase. That this increase began to effectively address a huge federal deficit was unimportant to core anti-tax constituents of his party; and Democrats (who by and large supported the increased taxes) took advantage of the president's tax policy reversal in the 1992 election. Politicians rarely say "read my lips" now.

So it is in this climate of budget woes and "no new taxes" promises that alternative solutions to raise revenue have been proposed. Governor Easley wants to introduce a state lottery. A lottery may not be ideal, so the argument goes, but at least it pays for good causes (i.e. education); and at least we're keeping our gambling dollars in our state rather than sending them to Virginia and South Carolina.

The benefits of a lottery, however, have not convinced a crucial majority in the General Assembly when lottery bills have been considered before. Some see the lottery as immoral; some see it as ineffective fiscal policy; and others stress the negative impact of lotteries on poor people and low-income communities. These arguments have made the anti-lottery coalition a strangely bi-partisan, yet effective, force in North Carolina.

There exists no formal Catholic Church position against lotteries either from the Catechism, the Holy See, or the U.S. Bishops (though some dioceses have lobbied against lottery bills). Catholics should consider the morality of a lottery as they would consider the morality of any game of chance (see Catechism, paragraph 2413). We must ask whether a lottery will deprive the gambler or others of basic needs; whether playing a lottery is addictive; and whether a lottery is a fair game of chance. Studies on the negative effects of lotteries should lead one to at least seriously question using a lottery to raise state revenue. The findings of such studies, however, must be weighed against the effect of not having the lottery revenue at all.

Perhaps to protect the vulnerable members of society, a majority of us would permit an increase in our taxes. Perhaps a public referendum is needed that would let the citizenry choose for or against an increase in income taxes. "Tax," as the Rev. George Reed of the North Carolina Council of Churches says in the July 2002 Church Council Bulletin, "is not a four letter word."

Our faith calls us to be especially sensitive to the effect of budget reductions on those least able to adjust to more austere budgets and to consider carefully the full ramifications of a lottery on children, families, and communities. No easy answers, no clear directives - simply a call to reflect, pray, stay informed, weigh options carefully, and participate in the political process.



## Light One Candle

MSGR. JIM LISANTE  
GUEST COLUMNIST

### A well-earned prize

Most of the Pulitzer Prize talk I heard this year centered on The Boston Globe, which won for its coverage of the sex scandal involving the Catholic Church. Its impact, as you know, reached far beyond Boston, and the institutional changes it set in motion will be felt for a long time to come. But the reaction that I heard to the Pulitzer award was lukewarm at best. Even those who admired the Globe's journalistic achievement were uneasy, I think, because of the scandalous matter it addressed.

What a joy it was, then, to read of another Pulitzer Prize — one which received relatively little attention, but one that came complete with a heartwarming story, and in the bargain left everyone simply delighted with the news. This Pulitzer was awarded to Diana Sugg, health reporter for The Baltimore Sun, who won for beat reporting — that is, for covering a regular news beat and doing so in an exceptional manner. I read about Diana's success in the Catholic Standard, newspaper of the Washington, D.C. archdiocese, in a story and accompanying column written by Mark Zimmermann, the paper's editor.

Diana freely admits that her parochial school training in English, writing and grammar got her off to a good start. As a student at St. Jude's School in Rockville, Md., she especially remembers conjugating verbs and

working on personal pronouns under eighth-grade teacher Adeline Loftus, and she has a fond place in her heart for all the lay teachers, the Bernardine Franciscan sisters and the Xaverian brother who staffed the school.

The rest of her education progressed with astonishing success: graduation from her high school in Rockville as valedictorian; editor of the school newspaper at Villanova University; a Kiplinger Fellowship to Ohio State University, where she earned a master's degree in journalism.

But unexpected challenges lay ahead. Diana was only 24 when she suffered a stroke, which led to chronic health complications. As she told Mark Zimmermann, she's suffered from seizures at work and has even had to be taken from the newsroom by ambulance. But she kept doggedly at her newspaper career, and has been the Sun's health reporter since 1995.

The Pulitzer Prize she received this year honored a variety of her stories: families being present in emergency rooms during the death of loved ones; the roots of Alzheimer's disease; the mystery of stillbirths.

"What distinguishes her work is its heart," said the editor who recommended Diana for the Pulitzer.

Diana, who is now 37, sees what she does, reporting about people in their life and death struggles, as a privilege and honor. "I know what it's like to walk in their shoes, to be sick with something that won't go away. It's taught me a lot about faith. It seems the people who you would expect to have lost faith have the most of it."

The faith foundation built in her formative years is as strong as ever. Diana now worships at St. Casimir's in Baltimore, and she has a special reason for loving the work she does.

"I always felt like if one person is helped from my stories, or one person is saved, then my whole life, my whole career would be worth it."

Diana Sugg's Pulitzer is surely something we can all applaud. And her own story, it seems to me, is one that rates a prize all its own.

## Faith and the Marketplace

GLENMARY FATHER  
JOHN S. RAUSCH  
GUEST COLUMNIST

### Living in the web of life

"Prayer on the Mountain" gathered 25 folks to plant flowers. From a sheltered workshop, we bought begonias, petunias and marigolds. Then, we went through the areas of Fleming-Neon and McRoberts, Ky., where the flooding hit the worst.

We modeled "Prayer on the Mountain" after the Via Crucis, so at a church or home damaged by flooding we paused, heard the story, said a prayer and planted a flower. Together we planted flowers wrapped in a prayer, because we wanted to replace the ugliness of destruction with the beauty of hope.

Mining towns represent disposable communities that contribute to the national welfare while suffering the costs. Rev. Steve Peake, pastor of the Corinth Baptist Church in Fleming-Neon, developed respiratory problems from the dust in the air. The latest technology allows reclaiming coal from the old slate dumps that surround the town, but that entails stirring up lots of dust. Not far away, mountaintop removal denudes the landscape and increases the runoff of rainwater. Dust in the air, the rumble of blasting and the fear of flooding describe an unsustainable way of life.

Catholic theology teaches the consistent life ethic. We respect life from conception till death. The Catholic bishops of Appalachia further offer the principle of sustainability in their 1995 pastoral letter, "At Home in the Web of Life." Sustainability links economic activity with life issues: "Our economic life must put back into the social and ecological community as much as it takes out, so that our communities will be sustainable for future generations."

That ethic resembles a spider's web, strong yet delicate. Selectively cutting connectors weakens and possibly destroys the web. Life needs the natural community of creation and the human community of society.

Throwaway communities mountains lead to throwaway people. The violence of war, poverty and capital punishment beg for life sustaining solutions. Sister Helen Prejean tells the story of Bud Welsh who lost his daughter, Julie, in the 1995 Oklahoma City bombing. A gifted linguist, Julie sat translating for an immigrant Mexican couple in the Murrah Building when the blast occurred. For weeks, Bud wanted revenge against Timothy McVeigh, till a morning newscast reported the execution of a murderer. Bud remembered that Julie once sat with him and listened to a similar story. She didn't believe in capital punishment — it doesn't stop violence, it only further coarsens society, he remembered her say. From that momentary remembrance, Bud Welsh changed his heart and advocated for life without parole.

That web teaches the interconnectedness of our choices. The violence we do to the environment, we do to humans, and vice versa. The cost of capital punishment is more violence, the cost of poverty is more indifference and the cost of cheap coal is more disposable communities.

Rev. Peake towards the end of "Prayer on the Mountain" stood by a row of framed houses on Highway 343: "This is my highway from Fleming to Neon. Every time I drive by, I think of people pushing brooms and shoveling mud out of their homes."

In the midst of a small garden by one house a plaque read, "The earth laughs in flowers."

### Viewing the body after an organ donation

*Q. We have been urged in recent years, even by the pope, to donate our bodily organs to someone else when we die. I would like to do that, but am told that we could not then have an open casket.*

*Is that true? Maybe that's why many people have a problem with these gifts. (Florida)*

A. No, that is not true. When organs (heart, lungs, kidneys, etc.) or tissues (heart valves, bone, skin, etc.) are donated, they are removed immediately after death, and no disfigurement or other problem would prevent a customary visitation.

If one's body is given for medical research, obviously there can be no visitation if the body is delivered shortly after death, which is what usually happens. A memorial Mass or other service is celebrated later, without the body present.

The gift of all or part of one's body is encouraged by, among others, nearly all religious denominations. Pope John Paul II calls it an act of Christian generosity, an expression of human solidarity which can "inspire men and women to make great sacrifices in the service of others" (April 30, 1990).

### True purpose of prayer

*Q. In a recent Bible class we discussed why we pray since God already knows what will happen, and we won't change his mind. So prayer should be not for things but only to praise God. Do you agree? (Oklahoma)*

A. Praising God, thanking and honoring him for what he is and for his goodness, is certainly the highest form of prayer. However, intercessory prayer is not so much a matter of changing God's mind as of recognizing that his providence and care for us include his awareness of our prayers, desires and longing.

It is essential to recognize that we are involved here with at least two great mysteries, which means they are ultimately beyond our comprehension. One is the mystery of God's knowledge of all things, along with his

## Question Corner

FATHER JOHN DIETZEN  
CNS COLUMNIST



unconditional faithfulness and tender love in our regard.

The other is the mystery of free will by which we somehow work together with God in shaping our individual lives and destinies. Our freedom of choice, which is a genuine personal freedom, involves above all else a personal relationship with God. It includes sharing with him our joys and sorrows, our hopes and disappointments, our wonders and regrets — all of which is nothing else but prayer.

This is why Jesus urges us often to pray fervently and perseveringly, and why he himself prayed in communion with his Father so frequently. What it all comes down to is that, while a full understanding of the way this works is beyond us, we believe what Jesus taught by word and example, that God's providential care on our behalf is in some auspicious way intimately related to our prayerful expressions of hope and trust in his goodness.

*A free brochure answering questions Catholics ask about receiving the holy Eucharist is available by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope to Father John Dietzen, Box 325, Peoria, IL 61651.*

*Questions may be sent to Father Dietzen at the same address, or e-mail: jjdietzen@aol.com.*



## BAN, from page 1

harmony with the vast majority of Americans who find this violent act intolerable and want it stopped," said the cardinal, who chairs the U.S. bishops' Committee on Pro-Life Activities.

The Senate voted 64-33 in favor of the ban March 13. President Bush has promised to sign the legislation, which was twice vetoed by President Clinton.

But before it goes to the president, the legislation must head to conference committee because of a Senate-passed amendment. Approved in the form of a nonbinding resolution, the amendment endorses *Roe vs. Wade*, the 1973 decision that removed most state restrictions on abortion, and says it secured an "important constitutional right."

Cardinal Bevilacqua made no reference to the amendment in his June 4 statement, but in a May 30 letter to fellow bishops about the upcoming vote he said, "This problematic amendment will need to be removed in a conference committee before the president will sign the ban into law. There is no scheduled timeline for this to happen."

After any conference committee changes, both the House and Senate will need to vote again on the legislation.

Shortly before the House vote, the White House issued a "statement of administration policy" urging enactment of the legislation without any significant amendments. "The administration strongly believes that enactment of H.R. 760 is both morally imperative and constitutionally permissible," it said.

The bill prohibits doctors from committing an "overt act" designed to kill a partially delivered fetus and includes an exemption in cases where the procedure is necessary to save the life of the mother.

Specifically, it defines partial-birth abortion as one in which either "any part of the fetal trunk past the navel" (in a breech presentation) or "the entire fetal head" is delivered outside the body of the mother before the baby is killed.

Cardinal Bevilacqua noted that opponents of the ban have pledged to "challenge the constitutionality of the Partial-Birth Abortion Ban Act in court."

"Nothing in our Constitution demands that unborn children must be subjected to a procedure so violent and so painful," he said. "To allow the brutal killing of a child mere inches from being born is barbaric. To cloak the act in the Constitution is a national disgrace."

"There should be no place in our culture for so barbaric an act as partial-birth abortion," said Maggi Nadol, Respect Life coordinator for the Diocese of Charlotte. "It is encouraging to see our legislators acting to outlaw this procedure. This points out the necessity for Americans to be educated and aware of the assaults against the sanctity of life."

"This act has received tremendous support from government leaders and the American people," said Msgr. Mauricio W. West, diocesan administrator. "Although abortion proponents plan to challenge the partial-birth abortion ban act on constitutional grounds, let us pray that it will become law in the very near future."

*Editor Kevin E. Murray contributed to this story.*

## Assisted suicide: Good news seen in state defeats, public perception

By CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — Opponents of assisted suicide are celebrating.

As a three-judge panel heard arguments in a case that could end the use of federally controlled drugs for assisted suicide in Oregon, efforts to legalize the practice in Arizona, Hawaii and Vermont died in their respective state legislatures.

In North Carolina, a bill introduced by two physician-legislators to ban assisted suicide in the state also failed.

Public opinion is shifting. The Gallup Organization's 2003 survey indicated the number of Americans who consider doctor-assisted suicide to be morally acceptable is dropping: 45 percent said doctor-assisted suicide was morally acceptable, 49 percent said it was morally wrong, 5 percent said it depends on the situation and 1 percent had no opinion.

Last year, 50 percent said it was morally acceptable, 44 percent said it was morally wrong, 4 percent said it depends on the situation and 2 percent stating no opinion.

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Wesley Smith, an International Task Force on Euthanasia and Assisted Suicide consultant, said in the past "euthanasia advocates claimed that only a rigid, religiously motivated minority — e.g., Catholics — was keeping Americans from accessing the 'ultimate civil right.'"

But after disability rights advocates joined the fight, "this kind of anti-religious demagoguery doesn't cut it anymore," he said.

"The belief in the sanctity of life starts at the beginning of life and continues until natural death," said Maggi Nadol, Respect

Life coordinator for the Diocese of Charlotte. "Just as abortion is not the answer for an unplanned pregnancy, neither is assisted suicide the answer for a terminal illness."

A 1998 referendum in Michigan and a 2000 initiative in Maine both resulted in votes against assisted suicide, through the work of coalitions of the disabled, medical experts, the pro-life community and the Catholic Church, said Smith.

*Editor Kevin E. Murray contributed to this story.*

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"Exploring Connections, Seeking Sustainability – The Key Elements of *At Home in the Web of Life*"



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# Former Raleigh Auxiliary Bishop Lynch dies at 86

RALEIGH — Bishop George E. Lynch, former auxiliary bishop of Raleigh and an active anti-abortion protester in his retirement, died May 25, 2003, four days before the 60th anniversary of his ordination. He was 86 years old.

From the time of his ordination to the priesthood May 29, 1943, to the time of his retirement in the summer of 1985, Bishop Lynch was present for and active in many historic occasions in the Diocese of Raleigh.

As chancellor of the diocese in 1953, for example, he helped to calm a small mob in Newton Grove, angry at Bishop Vincent Waters' decision to integrate the black and white parishes in the rural town. Redemptorist Father Edward McDonough of Boston recently told the NC Catholic, diocesan newspaper, that Bishop Lynch "saved the day" that Sunday, June 12. Father McDonough was an assistant pastor in Newton Grove at the time.

When Bishop Waters died Dec. 4, 1974, Bishop Lynch was named administrator of the diocese until Bishop Joseph Gossman was installed as bishop of

Raleigh May 19, 1975. Bishop Lynch served as director of the Home Missions Apostolate in 1962, when the diocese covered the entire state and only about one percent of North Carolina was Catholic, and was auxiliary bishop when the diocese was split in half at the creation of the Diocese of Charlotte in 1972.

That same year Bishop Lynch was named the superintendent of the Catholic Orphanage, founded almost 75 years before by Father Thomas Price, the first native North Carolinian Catholic priest and co-founder of Maryknoll.

Bishop Lynch was born March 4, 1917, the son of Timothy, a lieutenant in the New York City Police Department, and Margaret O'Donnell Lynch.

Bishop Lynch first heard of the Diocese of Raleigh when Bishop William Hafey, the first bishop of Raleigh, spoke at Bishop Lynch's home parish seeking contributions to support North Carolina parishes. While a student at Fordham University in New York City, Bishop Lynch was accepted as a Diocese of Raleigh seminarian.

Bishop Lynch studied at St. Mary

Seminary in Emmitsburg, Md., and Sulpician Seminary in Washington, D.C., before being ordained a priest May 29, 1943. He also studied canon law



Bishop George Lynch

from 1943 to 1946 at Catholic University in Washington, earning a doctorate. He then served as director of the diocesan Tribunal for many years.

He served as assistant pastor at St. Patrick Church in Charlotte from 1946

to 1950, and pastor at St. Paul in Henderson from 1951 to 1953. He became a vice chancellor of the diocese in 1951, and he was named chancellor of the Diocese of Raleigh January 1953.

On July 11, 1958, he was named a monsignor.

From 1963 to 1967, Bishop Lynch was pastor of St. Lawrence Church in Asheville; from 1967 to 1969, he was pastor of St. Stephen Church in Sanford.

He was named the diocesan vicar general May 21, 1968, a position he held until July 1985.


He was ordained auxiliary bishop of Raleigh Jan. 6, 1970, and became rector of Sacred Heart Cathedral Aug. 18, 1971. On March 15, 1972, he was named first pastor of the now defunct Holy Name Church in Nazareth, an area in western Raleigh which was purchased before by Father Price.

In 1981, Bishop Lynch was named pastor of Sacred Heart Church in Southport. He resigned as auxiliary bishop April 16, 1985, and retired in July that year.

Bishop Lynch moved back to the Bronx in New York City, where he was been active in anti-abortion activities. Working with Operation Rescue, an organization known for blocking access to abortion clinics, Bishop Lynch was arrested at least 21 times over the years since his retirement.

In 1995, Bishop Lynch was charged with violating the federal Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances Act of 1994 (FACE) by blocking access to the Women's Medical Pavilion, an abortion clinic in Dobbs Ferry, N.Y. It was the ninth civil action brought by the Department of Justice under FACE nationwide, and the first such civil suit by the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York.

In July 1996, a federal judge refused to impose statutory damages against the bishop.



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DCCNH-03



# Four Sisters of Mercy celebrate combined 175 years of service

BELMONT — Mercy Sisters Carmen Cruz, Mary Monica Perez and Mary Andrew Ray are being honored for 50 years as women religious, and Mercy Sister Ray Maria McNamara for 25 years — a combined 175 years of service — with a special anniversary Mass at St. Gabriel Church in Charlotte June 21.

## Mercy Sister Carmen Cruz (Golden Jubilarian)

Mercy Sister Carmen Cruz was born June 16, 1934, in Agaña, Guam. By the sixth grade, she had heard God's call and when she signed her classmates' yearbooks, she wrote she wanted to be a nun, a teacher and a nurse.

"Six years later, at the end of my junior year, I accepted the call and I've served in two of the three ministries and am presently working in a hospital as a chaplain," she said.

In 1952, Carmen entered the convent in Guam as a postulant. Three weeks later, she was chosen, along with two other postulants, to go to Belmont, North Carolina, for their formation.

She graduated from Sacred Heart College with a degree in early childhood education and in 1984 earned a certificate as a chaplain through Pennsylvania's Gwynedd-Mercy College's affiliation with Mercy Catholic Medical Center.

During her early ministry years, she served in the Archdiocese of Guam and in the dioceses of Charlotte, Raleigh and Rockville Center (N.Y.) as a teacher, assistant principal, assistant aspirant director and vocation co-director, and was director of the Catholic Youth Organization at St. Mary's School in Wilmington.

She also served as director of Region IV for the National Association of Catholic Chaplains. Sister Carmen later served as the first female police chaplain with the Buncombe County Sheriff's Department and the Asheville Police Department.

In the late 1990s, she spent summers at the University of San Francisco at Berkeley, earning her master's degree in the theology of applied spirituality.

Throughout her years as a Sister of Mercy, Sister Carmen points to common threads that connect her journey through religious life: a strong desire to grow in a deeper relationship with God; the need to share the Word of God and his compassion with others; a passion and enthusiasm for ministry; and faithfulness to her vows.

## Mercy Sister Mary Monica Perez (Golden Jubilarian)

Margarita Pangelinan Perez was born Jan. 22, 1935, in Agaña, Guam. As there was no Catholic school on the island, she had no contact with women religious until three sisters came to Guam in 1946.

"I really admired how dedicated the Sisters were to their calling. But at the time, I had no intention of becoming a sister. I wanted to be a teacher," said Sister Mary Monica. "Because the concept of becoming a sister was so new to me, I didn't realize until later that I could be both!"

Once the idea of dedicating her life to the Lord dawned on her, she prayed about the possibility until she came to

her decision.

On July 2, 1952, she took her first step into a new life by entering the convent in Guam.

After graduating from Sacred Heart College in Belmont with a degree in elementary education, Sister Mary Monica taught at Cathedral Grade School in Agaña and Santa Barbara School in Deddo. Over the years, she taught elementary classes and Confraternity of Christian Doctrine classes in Asheville, Charlotte, Wilmington, Belmont and Concord, as well as at Sacred Heart School in Long Island, N.Y.

In 1984, she began a new ministry as an assistant librarian and computer assistant at Sacred Heart College. Since 1989, she has served as director of computer services at St. Vincent de Paul Church in Charlotte.

Although convinced the Lord is at the heart of her 50-year ministry, she admits there have been ups and downs in her vocation, just as there are in any vocation, regardless of the calling.

"Only with God's help can one go through life. As far as I'm concerned, I do all things in the best way I can, and that's all that matters. All for the love of God," she said.

Her motto, "Thy will be done," describes not only her personal conviction but also her personal commitment to positively accept all of the happenings in her life.

"I always keep in mind that God will never let things happen to me that he and I will not be able to handle," she said.

## Mercy Sister Mary Andrew Ray (Golden Jubilarian)

Hazel Rita Ray was born Jan. 30, 1935, at Mercy Hospital in Charlotte, and became the youngest child in her family.

Her family later became parishioners of St. Patrick Church. Sister Mary Andrew's first recollection of the Sisters of Mercy was at O'Donoghue School in Charlotte. But it wasn't until later in her academic career did the idea of becoming a woman religious occurred to her.

"I was in high school when I realized that God was calling me to religious life — or at least that was the time when I allowed myself to face this realization," said Sister Mary Andrew.

She admitted to having doubts about entering the convent, but there was also a strong sense of mystery and discovery permeating her formation years.

After graduating with an associate's degree in education, she completed her bachelor's in social studies and education at Belmont Abbey College. Between 1958 and 1972, she taught at St. Michael School in Gastonia, Sacred Heart Grade School in Belmont, St. Mary School in Wilmington, Our Lady of the Assumption School in Charlotte and Sacred Heart School in Cutchogue on Long Island, N.Y.

From 1972 to 1976, she took time off from teaching to serve as secretary general of the North Carolina Sisters of Mercy. She then ministered as director of Kent Conference Center.

Beginning in 1978, she spent her summers studying at St. Michael's College in Winoski, Vt., where she earned her master's in teaching English as a Second Language for her ministry as co-foundress and subsequent director of the English as a Second Language program at Sacred Heart College.

"It was culturally enriching and challenging. Over the 10 years the program was in existence, from 1978 to 1988, we had students from 52 different countries," she said. "It was fun getting to know the students and making so many lifelong friends."

"I don't have any dreams of what I still want to accomplish in life, but I bet God does," she said. "Everyday, I pray for the grace to know what God is calling me to do in life and for the grace to do it."

Because of her devotion to her God, Sister Mary Andrew has given her church, community, students, friends, family and co-ministers many sweet memories.

## Mercy Sister Ray Maria McNamara (Silver Jubilarian)

Mercy Sister Ray Maria McNamara was born April 3, 1948, in Greenville, S.C.

Although she lived and attended school in town, she spent most summers working on the family farm. She was adept at driving farm equipment long before she qualified for her driver's license. Summers found her baling hay, stretching barbed wire fences and attending to the needs of the horses and cattle, which encouraged her love of nature.

Her youth wasn't entirely spent promoting the growth of plants and animals, however; while attending Holy Rosary Elementary School, her desire for God in her life was planted, nurtured, took root and grew.

After earning a bachelor's degree in biology at Clemson University in 1970, Ray Maria made her decision to enter religious life, but it wasn't with the Sisters of Mercy. She entered the Poor Clare Monastery in Greenville and devoted her life to prayer. Yet, something was missing for her.

She left cloistered life in 1975, but almost a year later realized she still longed to give her entire life to God through prayer and service. She searched for a community to cultivate this longing, and found the Sisters of Mercy Regional Community of North Carolina.

It wasn't long before she learned to balance commitment to community, the demands of ministry and her prayer life.

She taught science at parochial elementary and secondary schools in Greenville, S.C.; Wilmington, Charlotte and Belmont, N.C.; and New Smyrna Beach, Fla. She later earned a master's in educational leadership and administration from the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, Minn.

From 1985 to 1992, she taught and served as principal at St. Patrick School in Charlotte, and from 1993 to 1996 she served as chairperson of the science department at Gaston Day School in Gastonia.

In 1996, she felt another calling: this time, to deepen her educational experience by enrolling in the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley, Calif., where in 1998 she earned her master's in systematic theology. Currently, she is a doctoral candidate working on her dissertation in Christian spirituality.

"I also want to continue my research in the field of spirituality and ecology focusing on mysticism as well as asceticism as a spiritual practice and its relationship to our current environmental concerns," she said.

Her motto is "Choose life."

"With all of life's twists and turns, ups and downs, I have met God in some of the most amazing ways," she said. "God's presence and faithful love are more real today because I have worked to choose life, as best as I know how."

## Want to go?

The celebration Mass will be 10 a.m., June 21 at St. Gabriel Church in Charlotte. A reception will follow.



Sister  
Carmen Cruz



Sister Mary  
Monica Perez



Sister Mary  
Andrew Ray



Sister Ray  
Maria McNamara



The Lord stood by me and gave me strength, so that through me the proclamation might be completed and all the Gentiles might hear it. And I was rescued from the lion's mouth.

2 Tim 4: 17

# The Catholic

## NEWS & HERALD

INDEPENDENCE DAY

The staff of *The Catholic News & Herald* wishes our readers a safe and festive Fourth of July.

JUNE 27, 2003

SERVING CATHOLICS IN WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA IN THE DIOCESE OF CHARLOTTE

VOLUME 12 No 37

### NEW BEGINNINGS

## St. Joseph parish celebrates expanded church



PHOTO BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

Bishop William G. Curlin, bishop emeritus, celebrates the rededication Mass of St. Joseph Church in Newton June 15.

By KEVIN E. MURRAY  
EDITOR

NEWTON — Parishioners packed the pews for the rededication of St. Joseph Church June 15, a little over a year since the building was damaged by fire.

"Our campaign is 'Rebuild the Spirit,' and that's what we have done," said Jeff Horvath, chairman of the parish finance council. "Instead of giving up and going to another church, we rebuilt this one and all of our parishioners came together."

Parishioners were involved in all aspects of the rebuilding, from raising funds to landscaping, said Barbara Nesbitt, church secretary.

"We all worked together. It was very much a faith community effort to put St. Joseph's back together after

See ST. JOSEPH, page 6

### SEARCH FOR RUDOLPH

## Murphy priest tried to help bring suspect in

By KEVIN E. MURRAY  
EDITOR

MURPHY — With the May 31 capture of suspected serial bomber Eric Robert Rudolph, the nation's eyes are once again looking at the people of Murphy.

Theories circulate that residents of the small Appalachian town may have aided and abetted the accused serial bomber during his five-year elusion in the N.C. mountains. Despite a massive federal manhunt, Rudolph eluded capture until a rookie police officer caught him rooting through garbage cans behind a Save-A-Lot grocery store.

Rudolph now faces up to 20 state and federal charges

See RUDOLPH, page 4

## Missions from God

### Parishioners bring God's love to Jamaican poor, dying

By JOANITA M. NELLENBACH  
CORRESPONDENT

FRANKLIN — It was heartbreaking, Kaitlin McLean said, because, "They're women just like we are."

Except these women were dying of AIDS.

"Some of them are my age, but they know they're not going to get out of there," McLean, 18, said. "I wish I could have

#### More Coverage

page 7 | Parishioners befriend Ecuadorean parish

page 8 | Pope says mission work is Catholic obligation

page 15 | Couple visits Bolivia to help children in need

spent more time with them, just hung out with them like I do with my friends here."

See JAMAICA, page 8



PHOTO BY TERRI JARINA

A baby sleeps in a wrap on her mother's back in the village of Dra in the town of Sakete, in Benin, Africa.

## Reflections of CRS trip to Africa

By TERRI JARINA  
SPECIAL TO THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

BENIN, Africa — Images of water keep running through my thoughts as I reflect on the nine days I spent last month in Benin on a trip sponsored by Catholic Relief Services (CRS). Rivers and streams are visible from the air when approaching the airport in Cotonou, Benin's largest city, located on the coast of the Gulf of Guinea. Yet this precious resource is not readily available to all of the Beninois people.

See AFRICA, page 9

### DSA progress report

Contributions positively impact Diocese of Charlotte

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### Faithful memories

Maggie Valley's first Catholic recalls history

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### Missionary Servant accepts new mission at motherhouse

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### Bishop O'Brien resigns with 'heavy heart'

PHOENIX (CNS) — Bishop Thomas J. O'Brien, whose resignation as head of the Phoenix Diocese was accepted by the Vatican June 18, said he made the decision to resign with "a heavy heart and great sorrow."

A day before his resignation was accepted, he was formally charged with a felony of leaving the scene of a hit-and-run accident in which Jim L. Reed, 43, was killed. The accident was June 14, and two days later police arrested Bishop O'Brien on the felony charge.

His statement, released June 18 after the Vatican announced the pope had accepted his resignation, noted that the church "isn't one person. It is the Catholic people, the priests, and yes, the bishop."

He added, "I have shepherded the Phoenix Diocese for more than 20 years and it has always been my desire that the focus be on the good works of the church in the community and not myself."

Bishop O'Brien thanked the many people in the diocese who had supported him "through good times and bad" and noted that the past year has "been very painful."

### U.S. bishops to begin work on four new statements

ST. LOUIS (CNS) — By voice vote the U.S. bishops decided June 19 to begin working on four future statements. The projects were proposed by committees of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops on the first day of the USCCB's June 19-21 national meeting in St. Louis.

They are: a pastoral letter on theology of mission to help people become more aware of and engaged in the church's missionary work; a statement on agriculture issues, applying Catholic social teaching to new challenges confronting farmers and farmworkers in the face of globalization, rapidly expanding biotechnology and the increasing concentration of agricultural production in the hands of large corporations; a document on the collaboration of women and clergy, identifying practical ways to implement an earlier document on promoting women's dignity in the church; and a "foundational

document" of theological and pastoral reflection and guidance for the formation of ecclesial lay ministers in the U.S. church.

### Vatican Museums seek broad audience through new Web site

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The Vatican Museums, already one of the most-visited museums in the world, have opened their centuries-old collections to a huge new audience — Web surfers. Virtual visitors to the museums' new Web site, [http://mv.vatican.va/3\\_EN/pages/MV\\_Home.html](http://mv.vatican.va/3_EN/pages/MV_Home.html), launched at a Vatican press conference June 24, can wander through the Sistine Chapel, zoom in on details of Michelangelo's "Last Judgment," and gaze close-up at scores of the museums' most famous masterpieces. Officials said the site also would help tourists get the most out of a physical visit to the museums by enabling them to plan an itinerary through their labyrinthine, mile-long corridors ahead of time. In a related technological advance, officials hope to install, perhaps by the end of the year, wireless "hot spots" in the museum to allow visitors to access an online museum guide via a handheld computer or late-generation cell phone.



CNS PHOTO BY DECLAN WALSH

**Displaced girl watches French forces arrive in Bunia, Congo**  
A displaced girl camped at the Bunia airport watches as the French peacekeepers arrive in early June. Thousands have fled their homes in the area of northeastern Congo in fear of violent ethnic militia groups.

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## Diocesan planner

### Upcoming Parish Events

#### June

**28 CHARLOTTE** — St. Thomas Aquinas Church, 1400 Suther Rd., will present Father Ho Lung's "SPIRIT" concert at 7:30 p.m. Father Lung is known for his powerful songs that have been sung at papal Masses and used in Catholic liturgies and other worship services worldwide. His Caribbean-sounding concert transcends cultural and ethnic boundaries. All proceeds will go to fund missions in Jamaica, Haiti, India, Philippines and Uganda. For details, contact Carol Vincent at (704) 845-4534 or CarolVincent1@aol.com, or Margo Colasanti at (704) 846-4168 or margocolasanti@aol.com.

**29 CHARLOTTE** — St. Matthew Church, 8015 Commons Pkwy., will repeat Father Ho Lung's "SPIRIT"

concert at 2 p.m. today.

#### July

**2 ALBEMARLE** — The Forever Young Club of Our Lady of the Annunciation Church, 416 N. 2nd St., will have a meeting and a covered dish lunch in the Family Life Center this morning at 10 a.m. For further details, call Gerald Maiden (704) 982-5261.

**2 CHARLOTTE** — The Happy Timers of St. Ann Church, 3635 Park Rd., will have a meeting with a luncheon and program at 1 p.m. in the parish activity center. All adults age 55 and older are welcome. For more information about the senior group or bingo Thursdays at 7 p.m., call Charles Nesto at (704) 398-0879.

**3 WINSTON-SALEM** — The Healing Companions is a grief support group for the bereaved which meets the first and third Thursdays of the month in Conference Room B at St. Leo the Great Church, 335 Springdale Ave. For further details, call Joanne Parcel at (336) 924-9478.

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**3 HICKORY** — St. Aloysius Church, 921 Second St. NE, will hold a charismatic Mass today in Sebastian Chapel at 7 p.m. A charismatic Mass will be held the first Thursday every of each month. For further information, contact Joan Moran (828)-327-0487.

**4 CHARLOTTE** — St. Peter Church, 507 S. Tryon St., will offer Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on the first Friday of every month following the 12:10 p.m. Mass and Benediction at 1:30 p.m.

**5 SYLVA** — St. Mary Church offers Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament the first Saturday of every month following the 9 a.m. Mass until 3 p.m. For information, call (828) 586-9496.

**6 SWANNANOVA** — St. Margaret Mary Church, 102 Andrew Pl., will celebrate Mass today at 11 a.m. in honor of Father Andrew Lasko's retirement. All are welcome to attend the Mass and reception following. For details, call Bea Madden at 828-686-8833 or e-mail stmmc@charter.net.

**6 SALISBURY** — Sacred Heart



# Assistant superintendent graduates

**By KAREN A. EVANS**  
**STAFF WRITER**

CHARLOTTE — Janice Ritter, assistant superintendent of diocesan Catholic schools, recently earned her doctorate in educational leadership from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte.

Ritter, who has worked for the Diocese of Charlotte since 1997, received her undergraduate degree in art education from the College of New Rochelle in New Rochelle, NY. She also holds a master's degree in early childhood education from the college.

Ritter received her principal certification from UNC-Charlotte in 1996 and began her course work for her doctorate degree four years ago, which consisted of three years of course work and a year to complete her dissertation.

For much of 2002, Ritter served as acting superintendent while a search was conducted for a new superintendent of diocesan Catholic schools. Her duties included overseeing the diocesan department of education, 17 schools, teacher certification, Southern Association of Colleges and Schools accreditation and the curriculum.

"I admire Janice's determination to get her doctorate," said Linda Cherry, superintendent of diocesan Catholic schools.

"To be able to balance work, family and her dissertation shows the dedication and organization Janice exhibits," said Cherry. "I am very proud of her achievement and I congratulate her on behalf of the entire diocesan schools."

Contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans by calling (704) 370-3354 or e-mail [kaevans@charlottediocese.org](mailto:kaevans@charlottediocese.org).

# A progress report on the Diocesan Support Appeal

CHARLOTTE — Over 500 teenagers' lives were touched this year through the annual Diocesan Youth Conference, Extreme Faith and retreats and programs offered by the Office of Youth Ministry.

Thousands of Hispanics were given an opportunity to worship, study and serve in their new land with the help of Hispanic coordinators. Countless lives were changed thanks to programs and counseling offered through Catholic Social Services. Twenty-two seminarians continued their studies to eventually serve the people of the diocese as priests.

All of this and much more — thanks to ministries and agencies funded in part through the Diocesan Support Appeal.

While the DSA 2003 does not officially come to a close until December, the diocese is now two months into the payment period for those who made a pledge at the beginning of the appeal. Forty of the 92 parishes and missions have reached their goal in pledges, with another 18 parishes within 10 percent of their goal.

Barbara Gaddy, associate director of development, predicts more parishes will surpass their target by August.

"Several of our mountain-area parishes will hold their DSA Appeal Sunday campaign during the month of June, and expect to reach their goal at that time. Many parishes throughout the diocese continue to promote the appeal during the summer months," said Gaddy. "The Office of Development is always available to help any parish that is still short of its target."

"We are deeply grateful and heartily encouraged by the response to this year's DSA," said Msgr. Mauricio W. West, diocesan administrator. "I have personally witnessed the impact that the DSA has on people throughout the diocese, and wish that I could personally thank all those who have contributed to the

# Parish council looks forward to building new church



COURTESY PHOTO

Pictured above are (clockwise from left) John Walsh, Margaret McLaughlin, Bulfano Hernandez, Clair Behre, Father Ricardo Sanchez, Pedro Munoz, Frank Murphy, John Thomas, Graciela Colli, Joan Anderson, Liborio Giarcia, Laura Rolls and Guadalupe Garcia.

# Plans approved for new facilities in Candor

BISCOE — The parish council of Our Lady of the Americas Church recently celebrated the completion and approval of the Parish Profile and Plan by the Diocese of Charlotte April 28.

The council worked over the last two years to complete the Parish Profile and Plan, required before building new church facilities in Candor could begin for the multicultural parish.

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Church, 128 N. Fulton St., will be celebrating a charismatic and healing Mass today at 4 p.m. Prayer and worship with prayer teams will be available at 3 p.m., and a potluck dinner will follow the Mass. Father John Putnam, pastor, will be the celebrant. For further information, call Bill Owens at (704) 639-9837.

**7 CHARLOTTE** — The bereavement support group will meet tonight 6-7:30 p.m. and every first Monday in the Family Room at St. Gabriel Church, 3016 Providence Rd. This support group is for anyone who has experienced the loss of a loved one. For details, call Ruth Posey, CSS counselor, at (704) 370-3238.

**7 CHARLOTTE** — Christians in Career Transition is a ministry of St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy., devoted to helping people in career crises. The meetings take place on the first and third Mondays of every month 7-9 p.m. in the conference room. For more information, call Rev. Mr. Jim

Hamrlik at (704) 576-0456.

**7 CHARLOTTE** — The cancer support group for survivors, family and friends will meet today and every first Tuesday at 7 p.m. at St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy. For more information, call Marilyn Borrelli at (704) 542-2283.

**7 CLEMMONS** — Holy Family Church, 4820 Kinnamon Rd., will be celebrating a charismatic Mass tonight at 7:30 p.m. The sacrament of reconciliation will be given at 7 p.m., and the laying on of hands will take place after Mass. For more information, call the church office at (336) 778-0600, or Jim Passero at (336) 998-7503.

**9 CHARLOTTE** — The 50+ Club of St. John Neumann Church, 8451 Idlewild Rd., will be conducting a meeting this morning at 11 a.m. with a program and lunch in the parish center. Donations are being accepted during the meeting. For more information, call Lucille Kroboth at (704) 537-2189.

**12 CHARLOTTE** — The Vietnamese

Cursillo group will have a leader school meeting tonight at 7 p.m. at Our Lady of the Assumption Church, 4207 Shamrock Dr. For details, call Do Ky at (704) 532-9094.

**13 CHARLOTTE** — The St. Maximilian Kolbe Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order will be gathering today at 2 p.m. at Our Lady of Consolation Church, 2301 Statesville Ave. Those interested in learning more about the SFO and the Franciscan way of life are invited to attend. For more information, call Skyler Harvey, SFO, at (704) 545-9133.

**13 CHARLOTTE** — A charismatic Mass will be held at St. Patrick Cathedral, 1621 Dilworth Rd. East, this afternoon at 4 p.m. with prayer teams at 3 p.m. and a potluck dinner follows in the school cafeteria. For further information, contact Susan Lew at (704) 849-0214 or e-mail [sl505383@yahoo.com](mailto:sl505383@yahoo.com).

**14 FRANKLIN** — The Women's Guild of St. Francis of Assisi Church, 299 Maple St., will be having their

monthly meeting tonight at 7 p.m. in the Family Life Center. The meetings feature guest speakers and special events periodically. For more information, call Claire Barnable at (828) 369-1565.

**16 CHARLOTTE** — Father Frank Pavone, national director of Priests for Life, will present a pro-life seminar at Our Lady of the Assumption Church, 4207 Shamrock Dr., tonight. The evening will begin with Benediction and the rosary for life at 7 p.m. Father Pavone will speak 7:30-9:30 p.m. For details, call Terri DeLuca at (704) 888-6060 or [delucajmj@netzero.net](mailto:delucajmj@netzero.net)

**16 HUNTERSVILLE** — Natural Family Planning classes are being held the third Wednesday of every month at 7 p.m. at St. Mark Catholic Church, 14740 Stumptown Rd., Room 200. Classes are taught by Dr. Matthew Harrison. All are welcome to attend, no registration required. Call (704) 948-0231 for directions and more information.



## Rudolph, from page 1

from attacks including the bombings of two abortion clinics and an explosion at the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta that killed one woman and injured more than 100 people.

One of the clinic attacks in Birmingham, Ala., killed an off-duty police officer. The other caused injuries at an Atlanta clinic. Rudolph also is a suspect in an attack on a gay nightclub in Atlanta.

Bishop William G. Curlin, then-bishop of Charlotte, was quick to dismiss Rudolph's tactics and issued a statement distributed at weekend Masses July 25-26, 1998, at St. William Church in Murphy and its mission parish, Immaculate Heart of Mary, in Hayesville.

"The Catholic Church is committed to

nonviolent and only nonviolent actions to promote the respect and dignity of all human life," said Bishop Curlin. "Those who see terrorist bombing and other violent acts as justifiable in the pro-life movement are contradicting the Gospel message."

Bishop Curlin called on Catholics to cooperate with agents searching for Rudolph. "I don't know if he's guilty or not," said the bishop, "but anybody who commits murder ... is no hero and should be subject to the law."

Federal and state-law enforcement agencies weren't the only ones trying to find Rudolph in the N.C. mountains. Father George Kloster joined a group of eight area ministers in an unannounced attempt to contact the elusive suspect.

"We were concerned the whole thing would come to a violent end," said Father Kloster, pastor of St. William Church, located half a mile from the now-infamous Save-A-Lot.

In December 1999, Father Kloster and the "Eric Rudolph Committee" circulated a statement about their concern "for the safety of Mr. Rudolph, for innocent members of the county community, and for the agents seeking to arrest him. In the spirit of the Christmas season ... (we) offer to Mr. Rudolph our services if he wishes to voluntarily and with dignity turn himself in to the legal authorities."

Those services included members of the committee accompanying Rudolph when he turned himself in; staying with him as he wanted and would be allowed by legal authorities; and providing prayer partners, counseling and personal support during the time he was in custody in the Murphy area.

"We circulated it among back channels. We took it to people who may have been able to get it to him," said Father Kloster. "I don't think any of us thought he'd take advantage of it even if he knew about it, but at least we were doing something that might provide a means to bring it to a peaceful ending rather than a violent one."

Rudolph, who media sources say possesses anti-black, anti-Jew and anti-homosexual views, was known to associate with "violent people," said Father Kloster. Many ministers hoping Rudolph would turn himself in were victims of threatening letters from possible supporters of the accused serial bomber.

"We heard Rudolph had a radio," said Father Kloster. "One of his last purchases was for a lot of batteries. We thought that would be a way to contact him, but ultimately we decided not to go public."

So the members procured a beeper, monitored in shifts by the members 24 hours a day, seven days a week. They circulated the beeper number with their statement with hopes it would reach Rudolph.

But what if Rudolph called in while Father Kloster was on duty?

"It was a scary thought," he admitted.

"We had the whole thing worked out in theory how the procedure would work."

The procedure included two members meeting Rudolph and that he agree not be armed during their meeting. But Rudolph never called.

Over the years, several members of the committee left the Murphy area and the attempts to contact Rudolph gradually fell by the wayside.

"When Rudolph was arrested, I read he offered no resistance and seemed relieved to be caught," said Father Kloster. "One of my regrets is that we didn't pursue this more and try to get it out to him once a year ... and let him know we were available for him."

Now that Rudolph is in custody, Father Kloster believes justice can finally be done.

"People who were victimized know it's important for this trial to take place," he said. "Now there's an opportunity for the government to make its case and for Rudolph to make his case. He needs the opportunity to have his day in court and see what the justice system brings about. With him in hiding, that wasn't going to happen ... and the real facts of the case can't be brought out."

"A fair trial will bring resolution in his role in this, whether he's innocent or guilty," added Father Kloster.

It may also bring resolution to the town of Murphy.

"What's really important is there's some kind of closure in this area," said Father Kloster, who doesn't believe the majority of Murphy residents support Rudolph's methods. But other news sources claim some locals admire Rudolph's ability to elude capture.

"There are some who certainly do, and I think he captured the imaginations of a lot of people," said Father Kloster.

Catholic News Service contributed to this story.



COURTESY PHOTO

### Local AOH donates books to CCHS

Tim Lawson, state president of the Ancient Order of Hibernians (left), and John Eury, book drive chairman for the AOH's Mecklenburg County Sons of Erin Division 1 (right), present books to Linda Meckes, Charlotte Catholic High School media specialist, during a donation ceremony May 14. The AOH, a fraternal organization open to Catholic men of Irish birth or descent, held a fundraiser to purchase books on Irish and Irish-American history and culture for the high school.



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# Faithful memories

## Maggie Valley's first Catholic recalls early history

**By JOANITA M. NELLENBACH**  
CORRESPONDENT

MAGGIE VALLEY — Nowadays, people drive the motel-, restaurant- and shop-lined four-lane Highway 19 to Mass at St. Margaret Church.

Fifty-six years ago, Highway 19 was a dirt road, the only business was a combination gas station and grocery store and there were no Catholics — until Viola Henry arrived. Viola, her husband, Carl, and three sons (their fourth was born in 1949) moved to what was then called Maggie on April 1, 1947 (it wasn't officially incorporated as Maggie Valley until 1974). The Henrys opened the valley's second business, Twinbrook Resort.

The nearest Catholic church was St. John, built in Waynesville in 1941.

The route from Maggie to Waynesville wasn't as direct as it is now, and the trip to Mass could take 45 minutes (it's about 20 minutes today). Still, not going to church wasn't an option for Viola, who was the third of nine siblings from a Catholic family in Lincoln Park, Mich.

Carl, from Jackson County, N.C., had gone to Michigan in the 1930s to look for work. He found employment — and Viola, whom he married in 1938.

In 1947, Viola said, "A cousin (in Sylva) wrote to him and told him that a property across the mountain was available, and he thought Carl would like it. He came down and looked at it and bought it."

Only about five families lived in what is now downtown Maggie. The 20-acre Twinbrook property was undeveloped, ex-

cept for a house.

"What did I think when I saw it?" Viola said. "(I thought), 'My goodness, my boys will have a place to play.' They could climb trees and wade in the creek."

She drove the boys daily to St. John's Catholic School, run by Franciscan sisters.

"The school attracted people from the surrounding area, including Cherokee," she said. "It really was the best school in the area, and since I was Catholic our children went there." Carl, who was Southern Baptist, didn't object to the Catholic education.

People in the valley had never met a Catholic and were initially suspicious of the newcomer. A rumor went around that Viola was an agent of the pope. The Henry's windows were sometimes broken.

Finally, Viola said, Carl looked up the people he suspected and warned them he would take action if the harassment didn't stop. It did.

Later, some of the men told Carl they had hidden in the bushes near the house to observe Viola, so they could see if Catholics were really different from other people.

Viola didn't think she was different, and gradually the community warmed up to her. One day a woman told her, "I don't care what people say about you, I like you."

It was the little things that counted, like Viola buying milk from a neighbor. The two chatted and shared recipes, and the woman taught Viola how to make Southern-style biscuits and cornbread.

"You just did what you could," Viola said. "You didn't think about people not knowing you. I'd just say, 'Hi, I'm Viola

Henry.' I had no problems talking to them."

She has always lived her beliefs quietly, she said: "My faith is always there. You believe it; God's there for you always. I say my prayers as I go along. If I have something to say, I say it, (such as) 'Jesus,



Viola Henry

this person needs help.' It's the way we live; we don't live with a lot of flowery speeches."

By the late 1950s, Viola was able to attend Mass in Maggie. In 1956, Michael William Murphy, who had visited in the valley, bought 33 acres on Highway 19. The property included a two-story building with a craft shop on the first floor and an upstairs apartment.

The devoutly Catholic Murphy soon

turned the craft shop into a chapel and announced throughout the valley that a visiting priest would celebrate Mass on Sundays and holy days.

In 1967, Murphy laid the cornerstone for St. Margaret Catholic Church. Fewer than 50 people attended the church's first Mass in June 1968. Now St. Margaret has 172 registered families year-round, with an additional 65 seasonal parishioners.

Sometimes Carl accompanied Viola to Mass. One day in 1999, when he was 90, he said he wanted to talk to a priest.

Augustinian Father Frank Doyle, St. Margaret's pastor, visited and talked extensively with Carl and agreed to baptize him. Viola set the date for Dec. 8, 1999, their 61st wedding anniversary. With the Henrys' friends and family gathered in the house at Twinbrook, Father Doyle celebrated Mass, baptized and confirmed Carl (he'd never been baptized as a Baptist) and gave him his first Communion.

Carl regularly attended Mass at St. Margaret until his death in 2001. His conversion was an answer to a prayer Viola had been saying for years.

She had prayed, she said, "Just that we would be together in church, and I wasn't going to become a Baptist."

Contact Correspondent Joanita M. Nellenbach by calling (828) 627-9209 or e-mail [jnell@dnet.net](mailto:jnell@dnet.net).

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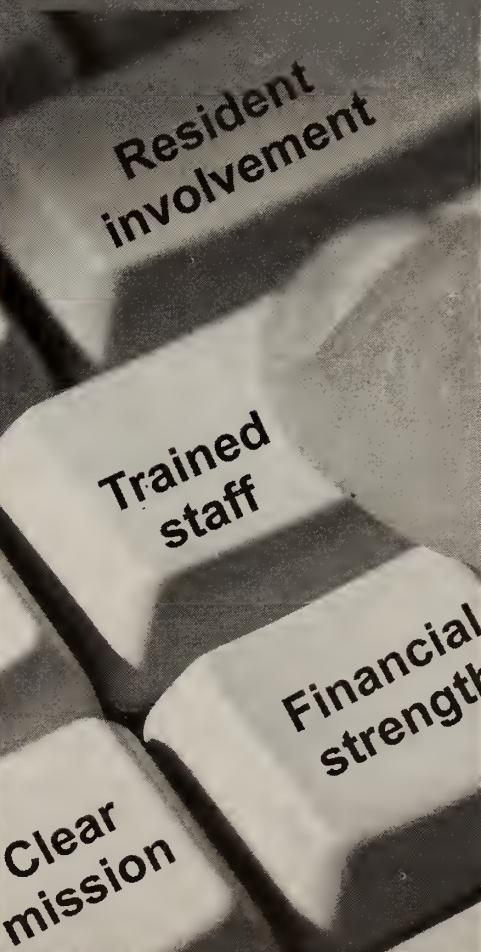




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## ST. JOSEPH, from page 1

the fire," she said.

Bishop William G. Curlin, bishop emeritus, presided over the rededication Mass with Father James Collins, pastor. The bishop expressed his gratitude to the parish.

"You are the ones who sacrificed to build this beautiful church, and make many improvements to the whole building," said Bishop Curlin in his homily. "May God reward you a hundredfold for all you have done to make this such a beautiful place of worship."

### A growing community

Originally dedicated in October 1978 as a mission of St. Aloysius Church in Hickory, St. Joseph saw tremendous growth and was granted parish status in December 1979. The parishioners turned their attention to expanding outreach efforts and built a center for faith formation and social activities, Holy Family Hall, in 1982.

St. Joseph is now a multicultural parish, with Horvath estimating approximately 250 Anglo families and 500 Hispanic families.

"You come from many parts of the world and make one family in Christ," said Bishop Curlin to the parishioners. "What a tremendous tribute to your faith."

"Originally, we were going to expand not only the church but Holy Family Hall, because that's where our classrooms are. But as a result of the fire that happened in February of last year, it made it necessary for us to rebuild the church," said Horvath.

"So we not only enlarged the church, but we added three classrooms to alleviate the (overcrowding) problems," he said. "The church can hold about 80 more people than it could before, which I believe is now about 280."

As the church was being renovated, Mass was held in Holy Family Hall, which Horvath said made it difficult to accommodate everyone.

"Since the fire, we lost some (parishioners) because it was very difficult to sit in the folding chairs in the hall," he said. "But since the church has opened, a lot of people have come back. We expect more since the dedication. We've only been open for about a month now."

### Morning of the fire

Flames were spouting into the early Feb. 28 morning air before anyone knew what was happening.

"I was awakened by a parishioner who said the church was burning," said Father Collins. "I looked out my window and saw all the fire trucks."

A Newton police car happened to be on patrol near the church when the fire was



**Knights of Columbus stand before Bishop Curlin and Father Collins during St. Joseph Church's rededication ceremony June 15. Top right: Bishop Curlin leads the procession outside the church doors. Bottom right: Bishop Curlin sprinkles water around the church.**



PHOTOS BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

spotted around 5:30 a.m. The fire was contained within 30 minutes, according to the fire department.

"I couldn't believe it, seeing the flames coming out of the roof," said Bob Draher, maintenance supervisor at St. Joseph.

"I didn't know what to think on the way over here," said Kris Mulligan, parish music director, upon receiving word of the fire. "The church was still smoking at 7:10 (a.m.) when I arrived."

"I thank the Newton Fire and Police departments for their quick response time," said Father Collins. "Their response time helped save the church. I just thank God it (the fire) didn't go into the main sanctuary."

The fire began and was contained in the church's chapel, where the majority of the structural, mechanical and electrical damage occurred. A candle left burning caused the blaze, according to the fire report.

The sanctuary received mostly smoke damage, said Rev. Mr. Guy Piche, properties director for the diocese. Many pews, ceilings and offices needed to be thoroughly cleaned or replaced.

"The damage is quite extensive, and will require a bit of work," said Jason Jack, manager of a local company that coordinated the repair efforts.

Several pastors from other denominational churches and two area funeral homes offered their assistance and use of their facilities for Mass, said Father Collins.

"The community really comes together when things happen like this," he said.

In the end, Father Collins and other parishioners were just relieved no one was

injured in the fire.

"It could have been a lot worse," said Joe Lichtenwalner, pastoral council president at St. Joseph.

### A new future

"The parish really came together," said Horvath. "A lot of our friends and neighbors here in Newton — the Baptist church, the Lutheran church, the Methodist church — all came together and gave contributions and so forth, and helped us clean up after the fire."

Bishop Curlin reminded parishioners the church was more than a building. "The church is you," he said. "So as I rededicate this church, I am rededicating you, too. When you walk out of this church, don't leave Jesus here; take him with you ... and bring his love to a world that needs him."

Contact Editor Kevin E. Murray by calling (704) 370-3334 or e-mail [kemurray@charlottediocese.org](mailto:kemurray@charlottediocese.org).



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Brothers and sisters in Christ

# Parishioners befriend Ecuadorean parish

By REV. MR. GERALD POTKAY  
CORRESPONDENT

GREENSBORO — The Sister Parish Program is alive and thriving at St. Paul the Apostle Church. This innovative, parishioner-driven undertaking directly involves the parishioners of both St. Paul the Apostle and those of the Parish of the Child Jesus in the neighborhood of Altamira in Manta, Ecuador.

Armed with a plan of action for this discipleship program, parishioner Ken Kaczmarek took his idea first to Oblate Father Thomas Murphy, pastor of St. Paul the Apostle, then to the parish council and finally to the members of the parish.

The idea, said Kaczmarek, "is for the parish to reach out to the international community so that we might expand our opportunities for personal growth and, at the same time, better understand the culture and customs of another country. And the best way to accomplish this goal is to work under the umbrella of Catholicism."

## Reaching out

Kaczmarek and his committee researched parishes throughout South America and Africa, finally discovering Manta's Parish of the Child Jesus, whose pastor is Oblate Father Roque Bisognin Botton.

The city of Manta has about 45,000 people, of which 85-90 percent are Catholic with only 20 percent actually practicing the faith.

Father Botton's parish consists of 12 chapels situated throughout his parish boundaries. Three of these chapels have food kitchens that feed approximately 375 children at a cost of about five cents per head per day. Father Botton's parish also has a medical dispensary manned by its own parish doctor and pharmacist.

Dr. Maria Ibarra-Wong, a part-time physician in Madison, N.C., is in contact with the doctor and the pharmacist in Manta. Ibarra-Wong said the Sister Parish Program "gives the opportunity to the parishioners of both parishes to meet and understand other cultures and environments. This has certainly opened our eyes to see their needs so that we might more readily help them."

"Without utilizing parish funds, the people of this parish subsidize some of the economic needs of the Parish of the Child Jesus," said Kaczmarek. "For instance, the water in Ecuador is on the salty side, even water from wells. Therefore, they need water purification and filtration systems."

Another goal of St. Paul the Apostle parishioners is to help their sister parish establish a library for their school.

"This is because the children of Ecuador only read for necessity, not for enjoyment, and we would like to encourage more casual reading," said

Kaczmarek.

Several parishioners have traveled to Manta to assess and understand the sister parish's needs.

"This has helped in the exchange of ideas and economic aide. It has opened the doors to them and from them to us," said Ibarra-Wong. "We are becoming teaching communities who seek to develop our mutual parishes through personal involvement and assistance."

In return, Father Botton visited the Greensboro parish May 26-June 6 to see how the church functioned and what useful knowledge he could take back to Manta. St. Paul the Apostle parishioners gave him a going away reception June 5 and a bundle of letters to take back to his parishioners.

"Our parishes help each other grow spiritually," said Father Botton. "We share our prayers and communicate at least quarterly through electronic mail. We can also see which programs in Ecuador are similar to those in America. This way we can trade ideas."

"Our Parish of the Child Jesus is most appreciative of the economic aide given by our sister parish," he added. "Especially helpful were the four wheelchairs sent by our Sister Parish of St. Paul the Apostle."

## Developing relationships

"It is good for people to get a better understanding of each other," said Colleen Assal, Sister Parish Program member and chair of the welcoming committee for Father Botton's visit.

"Through our mutual communication, our brothers and sisters in Ecuador can see what Americans are really like as people. This helps eliminate the bad image we receive from the world press," she said. "Not only do we address the important issues like the war in Iraq or the problem arising from the charges of pedophilia by priests, but more importantly, we can interchange what we do as a parish. This is especially helpful in the areas of sacramental preparation



PHOTO BY REV. MR. GERALD POTKAY

Oblate Father Roque Bisognin Botton, pastor of Parish of the Child Jesus in Manta, Ecuador, visited his sister parish of St. Paul the Apostle Church in Greensboro May 26-June 6. Dr. Maria Ibarra-Wong, a St. Paul the Apostle parishioner, presents children's books to Father Botton for a new library.

both in terms of what they do and in what we do."

"Our program here at St. Paul the Apostle is designed to be self-perpetuating, regardless of who comes and goes," said Kaczmarek. "I might add that the sister parish of St. Pius in Peru is mainly assisted through charity. The program we have here is designed to be more personal and any monetary gift is based on friendship and healthy relationship rather than charity."

"Father Roque's visit has added more spirit to our program, a program that helps parishioners from both parishes to develop good strong relationships," said Father Murphy. "This is a good opportunity for us to live the Gospel message by reaching out to others and sharing with those who have even less than we do."

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## JAMAICA, from page 1

McLean was one of 19 people from St. Francis of Assisi Church in Franklin, plus four from St. Matthew Church in Charlotte, who worked at five centers operated by the Missionaries of the Poor and one run by the Missionaries of Charity in Kingston, Jamaica June 7-14. Twelve of the St. Francis parishioners were 15- to 18-year-olds confirmed in the past two years.

Each center houses 50 to 100 people: crippled and deformed children whose parents were unable to care for them, blind and crippled adults, the mentally handicapped, AIDS victims, the abandoned, the dying. There was, McLean said, "a death a day" at one or another of the centers.

In three months, St. Francis of Assisi parishioners raised the funds for travel expenses with a concert, a flea market and youth digging into yardwork. The trip, said pastoral administrator Father Matthew Kauth, was "an attempt for them to respond to the gift of confirmation. In this case, the response was to find and serve Christ in the poorest of the poor. ... Seeing the devastation in Kingston causes you to engage your faith because you must start to live in and for another world."

McLean, who graduated from Franklin High School June 6, plans to become a doctor. "Before, I thought I wanted to go to medical school to work with AIDS patients, but now I know I want to go. I feel like I've found my vocation."

"I've traveled all over the world and I've seen poverty, but I've never looked it in the face," said Ron Brahmer, who teaches confirmation classes. "These people have nothing. I've never seen anything like this."

A man called Mr. Roy, who was "just skin and bones," was abandoned outside one of the centers. The stench from his sore-ridden body was overpowering, according to Brahmer. He and one of the missionary brothers undressed Mr. Roy so they could bathe him.

"This was the closest I've ever felt to God," Brahmer said. "I kept saying, 'I can't do this,' and then by the grace of God I could do this. This was Jesus I was bathing. As I was praying, the brother was singing. Maybe some day, I'll get to that point."

"I've worked with the poor with the Missionaries of Charity in Charlotte and some other places, but this was a much more intense experience," said Justin Grosnick, a seminarian for the Diocese of Charlotte. "These people had nothing but what the brothers could give them. I had never worked with children with cerebral



COURTESY PHOTO

**Kaitlin McLean, 18, of St. Francis of Assisi Church in Franklin, hugs Georgia, a Jamaican girl in Kingston.**

palsy and brain damage."

Nevertheless, Grosnick said, "These people are very joyful. You can't leave depressed. It showed the love that God has for the poor and that, as a priest, I hope I would be of service to them. It was a very renewing experience for me, and I could see that it was for a lot of other people."

Like Adam Gorski, 18, who bathed, shaved and helped feed people at several centers.

"We talked to them because they had nobody to talk to them," he said. "At first it was unsettling, all these people abandoned by their families."

Gorski was impressed that the people seemed happy, including Amos, a handless man who sang constantly. "Material possessions have nothing to do with life or how much you care for God or God cares for you," Gorski said.

Still, the privation was always there.

"In the slums, it was like pieces of tin tied together with sticks, pigs and dogs roaming the streets," said Gorski. "It changed my life because you're exposed to this poverty, and you realize how much you have."

Before the trip, Brahmer dreamed of buying a motor home so he and his wife could travel. No more. "After seeing what they don't have, I don't need more things," he said.

The week in Jamaica showed him something more important. "I would encourage anybody who thinks they can do this to try it and experience God's grace."

Contact Correspondent Joanita M. Nellenbach by calling (828) 627-9209 or e-mail [jnell@dnet.net](mailto:jnell@dnet.net).

## Pope says Catholics have obligation to support missionary work

By CINDY WOODEN  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — Despite tough economic times, Catholics have an obligation to help their poorer brothers and sisters and to support Catholic missionary activity, Pope John Paul II said.

A global economic crunch has had the double effect of increasing the needs of the church in many countries, but also causing "a worrying decrease" in financial donations to the Pontifical Missionary Works, the pope said.

Pope John Paul met May 16 at the Vatican with national directors of the missionary organization, which includes the Holy Childhood Association, the Pontifical Missionary Union, the Society for the Propagation of the Faith and the Society of St. Peter the Apostle.

"I urge you not to be discouraged by the difficulties," he told the directors. "Remind everyone that coopera-

tion, which is indispensable for the evangelization of the world, is a right and obligation of all the baptized."

Being able to help spread the Gospel with prayer, financial donations or one's life is a privilege, he said.

The missionary societies with their diocesan and national coordinators operate under the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples and truly reflect the universal character and mission of the church, he said.

The pope told the international group that he had met in February with more than 100 U.S. leaders of the societies.

"Through their generous offerings for their brothers and sisters in need, these works are a sign of authentically universal love in that nation," he said.

Pope John Paul also encouraged the leaders to use the rosary to pray for the missions and for a missionary spirit among all Catholics.

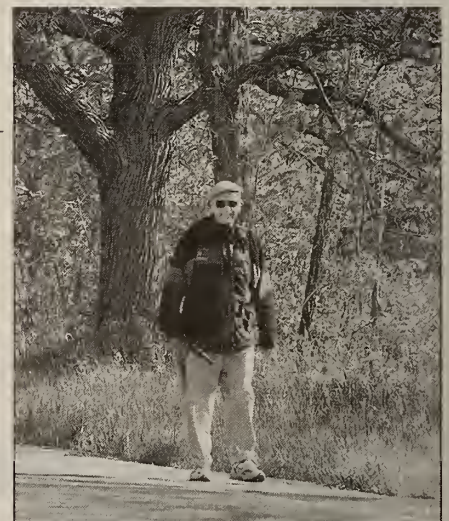
## U.S. Franciscan priest takes a hike for missions of Peru

PITTSFORD, N.Y. (CNS) — Franciscan Father Bill Brown, 67, spent more than a month on a 700-mile hike through four New York dioceses to raise funds for the missions in Peru, where he has resided for 44 years.

While passing through the Rochester Diocese, he told the Catholic Courier, the diocesan newspaper, that there is a physical, mental and spiritual benefit to walking.

"It's almost like my feet are happy when I start walking," he said.

He averaged 25 to 30 miles each day he walked. Father Brown said he often goes up to eight hours straight at a clip of three to four miles per hour. This walk, which he completed June 10, was the third one he has undertaken on behalf of Peru's missions. All three have been in New York state.



CNS PHOTO BY KARIN VON VOIGTLANDER, CATHOLIC COURIER

**Franciscan Father Bill Brown walks from Brockport to Bergen along Route 19 in upstate New York in late May to raise funds for missions in Peru.**

The priest raised approximately \$50,000 from each of his previous two walks. He walked 500 miles in 1992 and 600 miles in 1997.

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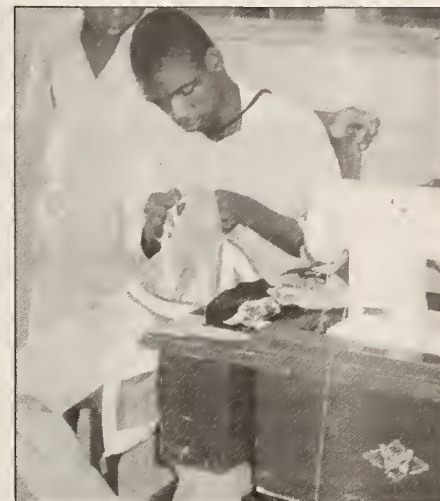
Member of St. Thomas Aquinas







PHOTO BY DAN MISLEH



PHOTOS BY TERRI JARINA

Left: Terri Jarina meets with a representative of Sakete's mayor in the village of Dra. Above left: Women dancers greet the CRS group in Dra. Above right: A young student does appliqué work at a resident and day school for the deaf and hearing impaired in the village of Louho.

## AFRICA, from page 1

Water is more abundant in Benin than in other parts of Africa, though the majority of its citizens do not have clean sources of water for drinking, cooking or bathing. Water systems and minimal sanitation infrastructures are limited to the cities; they are nonexistent in the small villages.

Benin, a country the size of Pennsylvania, has 42 ethnic groups, the most prominent of which are Fon, Adja, Yoruba and Bariba. Indigenous beliefs are dominant among 50 percent of the population, while 30 percent are Christian and 20 percent are Muslim. The latest available data (1999) indicates that 37.2 percent of the population live below the poverty line.

Despite inadequate supplies of potable water, the Beninois exude determination and a perpetual hope for the future — a hope emphasized in CRS' "Africa Rising, Hope and Healing Campaign." We witnessed projects and programs that are supported by money collected in parishes and schools through CRS' Operation Rice Bowl

(ORB) program.

Women and children are the primary participants in ORB-funded projects and programs in Benin. The literacy rate is 23.6 percent among females and among males 52.2 percent, according to 2000 estimates. The primary task of CRS and its partner organizations is to increase literacy and distribute information on health and nutrition among women.

Women are given opportunities to learn skills; join Village Banking programs, community-based credit and savings associations; and receive small loans. With these modest loans, the women typically buy and process foods to sell to generate income for their families. From the profits, they repay their loans and contribute to the community for schools, roads, health clinics and the construction of their meeting huts.

The female members of village banking in Gbénonkpo and Gbaka exhibit hope as they provide their children with the opportunity to attend school. These women expect their children will continue their studies and return to their villages. Some even envision a future when their offspring become honest bureaucrats who change the system and improve the quality of life.

Girls and young women welcomed

our group by pouring water across the entrance at three of the schools where we stopped. We later learned this ritual symbolizes blessing and peace during our visit. At all of the schools and villages, the Beninois entertained us with music, song and dance. They also joyfully presented us with gifts.

At one of the schools, we received a small handmade musical instrument. At another, they wrapped us in pieces of cloth to fashion skirts. They presented us with handmade soaps and snacks — their generosity was truly overwhelming.

At every stop, we saw hope in the faces of the humble people who provide and receive the services and benefits of CRS projects and programs. The most demanding day of our trip was the visit to Project Sedekon at Centre Davougon, the HIV/AIDS clinic. For seven years, CRS has collaborated with the priests of Saint Camille Serviteur des Malades (Servants of the Sick). Father Bernard Moegle told us that they have spent the past year "awakening the Beninois to the AIDS problem." The rate of HIV/AIDS diagnosis in Benin was 5.1 percent in 2002; lower than the national average for most of sub-Saharan Africa, but more than double the 2.1 percent rate for Benin in 1995.

Statistics tell only a part of the human misery story. At Project Sedekon (which means "the spirit is with us"), hospital rooms are filled with women and children suffering with the varied and deadly diseases ravishing the African continent. There are not enough rooms, so patients crowded the few benches or sat on the steps. Still more lie on beds moved outside or sit on the red dirt under the shade of trees surrounding the hospital rooms. Thirty to 40 new cases of AIDS alone are identified each month at Project Sedekon.

Food provided by the U.S. government is important because good nutrition plays a crucial role in treating people infected with HIV/AIDS. The center partners with other organizations in Benin and produces an algae supplement for the AIDS patients that is less expensive than the spirillum capsules available in the United States. They also anticipate access to retroviral medications (currently available only in Cotonou and the capital city of Porto Novo) by next year through an agreement between France and Benin.

Before leaving, we met with men and women who have formed an association to represent the patients of Sedekon. The members live in the surrounding area and work to prevent the spread of diseases, especially HIV and AIDS. The association's president emphasized that "the people will not come forward for fear of the stigma" associated with AIDS, and that many people do not want to know that they are HIV-positive.

As the flight home crossed the Mediterranean and the Atlantic, I realized that we have many of the same concerns as our sisters and brothers in Benin. CRS is doing significant work to encourage hope among the people of Africa. And, as they become more self-reliant, perhaps one day all Africans will have access to clean water and adequate healthcare.

*Terri Jarina, program director for Parish Social Ministry and coordinator of CRS' Operation Rice Bowl with the Office of Justice and Peace, traveled May 21-30 in Benin with five other CRS diocesan representatives, a staff member from Social Development and World Peace with the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, and a staff member of CRS in Baltimore. Contact her at [thjarina@charlottediocese.org](mailto:thjarina@charlottediocese.org).*

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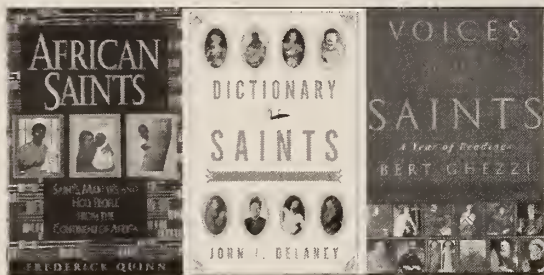


## Book Review

# Three new collections on saints

REVIEWED BY MAUREEN E. DALY  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

"African Saints" is a beautiful, wide ranging book, as multifaceted as its author. Frederick Quinn had a career in the U.S. foreign service — in Africa and elsewhere — but he is also an Episcopal priest with advanced degrees in African studies from the University of California at Los Angeles. A man of such wide experience can knowledgeably comment on political, historical, cultural and religious aspects of the lives of these holy people.



"African Saints: Saints, Martyrs and Holy People From the Continent of Africa," by Frederick Quinn. Crossroad (New York, 2002). 235 pp., \$22.95.

"Dictionary of Saints," by John J. Delaney. Doubleday (New York, 2003). 698 pp., \$32.50.

"Voices of the Saints, a Year of Readings," by Bert Ghezzi. Image Books (New York, 2002). 791 pp., \$19.95.

His book includes not just canonized saints of the Catholic calendar, but also newer, admirable figures such as Steven Biko, the South African political activist murdered in 1977, and holy people from other faiths, nearly 90 individuals in all. Quinn says, "I write from the perspective of a Christian priest who has lived among Jewish, Islamic and indigenous religions. As such, I applaud these other faith traditions with which I have come in contact and find them equal to my own before God. If there is to be a relative ranking of faiths at some point in the eschaton, I am content to leave that task to the author and originator of all religions."

These short chapters present a brief and surprising profile and close with a prayer. For newly canonized St. Josephine Bakhita, for example, Quinn gives the now-familiar outline of her life

but enlivens it with remarkable quotes from the saint's own first-person narrative about her sufferings as a slave. As a young girl, she writes, one cruel mistress forced her to receive more than 60 tattoos. And she adds the touching remark, "I thought I would die, especially when salt was poured in the wounds." In this concise entry Quinn offers a new view of this new saint whose life straddled two cultures and times. Kidnapped into slavery as a young child in Sudan, she lived long into the 20th century, dying in Italy in 1947 at the age of 78.

Quinn's collection will teach the reader a lot about Africa and about faith — from the New Testament's Simon of Cyrene, the African who helped carry Christ's cross, to courageous and generous witnesses to living faith today. The book closes with 20 pages of beautiful African prayers and proverbs.

We tend to think of the lives of the saints as instruction for children. Quinn's book is a sophisticated and inspiring collection for adult reading.

John J. Delaney's "Dictionary of Saints" is a revised edition of the comprehensive dictionary published more than 20 years ago. This new reference includes the newly canonized saints of the last decade. Nearly 700 pages, this is a fine resource book with more than 5,000 biographies of saints both famous and obscure.

Bert Ghezzi's "Voices of the Saints" is newly published in paperback. This book is a year of spiritual readings — 365 saints listed alphabetically and then cross-referenced so that their stories could be read in historical order. He also provides a calendar of feast days so that the profiles can be read on the day they are celebrated. Or the profiles can be grouped by themes, such as solitude, politics or the secrets of spiritual success. This is an inventive and useful book with a good glossary and an extensive bibliography.

*Daly is editor of book reviews for Catholic News Service.*

## Word to Life

Sunday Scripture Readings  
June 29, 2003

June 29, Sts. Peter and Paul, Apostles

### Cycle B Readings:

- 1) Acts 12:1-11  
Psalm 34:2-9
- 2) 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 17-18
- 3) Gospel: Matthew 16:13-19

By JEAN DENTON  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

Since I've been involved in parish ministry for a long time, the mere suggestion of a "parish survey" sends my eyes rolling. This tool of the corporate business model has "limited applications" to the church mission, if you ask me.

Our parish just got the results of a four-page member survey. It didn't change my mind. I was somewhat relieved to know that three-fourths of the respondents agreed or strongly agreed that faith formation is important — after all, this IS a faith community.

But I was disappointed that a third responded "neutral" to the statement "I am interested in attending faith formation classes." Disappointed, not surprised.

The most common comments (stop me if this sounds familiar): "We like/dislike the music." "I love the people." "We like/dislike the homilies." "Father is wonderful." "Parking is a

problem." "People should be more reverent." "The same few people do all the work." The reason why most respondents chose this parish? Location. This is inspirational? Of course, not.

In this week's Gospel, Jesus surveyed his disciples on the question, "Who do people say that I am?" The results — maybe John the Baptist, maybe one of the prophets — weren't much use to his mission. Peter's correct answer, though, was more than an opinion. It was truth given to him by God, not the conjecture of mere human intellect.

Jesus built his church on Peter, the rock that recognizes the presence in the world of the Son of the living God. Evidence that the mission is on track is anecdotal, not statistical. Conversion happens one heart at a time. Peter and Paul enfolded that truth. The numbers will never reflect the significance of this kind of transformation.

Our survey said that only 77 per cent were satisfied with the confirmation preparation program. We could do better — or could we? One of the confirmation candidates said in a letter to the pastor, "To me, being Catholic is about joining a worldwide community of people who are committed to using the talents God has given them for the common good. I have experienced the Holy Spirit by helping others in my community and have discovered the love that God has instilled in every person."

## Weekly Scripture

### Scripture for the week of June 29 - July 5

Sunday (Sts. Peter and Paul), Acts 12:1-11, 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 17-18, Matthew 16:13-19; Monday (First Martyrs of the Church of Rome), Genesis 18:16-33, Matthew 8:18-22; Tuesday (Bl. Junipero Serra), Genesis 19:15-29, Matthew 8:23-27; Wednesday, Genesis 21:5, 8-20, Matthew 8:28-34; Thursday (St. Thomas), Ephesians 2:19-22, John 20:24-29; Friday (St. Elizabeth of Portugal), Genesis 23:1-4, 19; 24:1-8, 62-67, Matthew 9:9-13; Saturday (St. Anthony Mary Zaccaria), Genesis 27:1-5, 15-29, Matthew 9:14-17

### Scripture for the week of July 6 - July 12

Sunday (Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time), Ezekiel 2:2-5, 2 Corinthians 12:7-10, Mark 6:1-6; Monday, Genesis 28:10-22, Matthew 9:18-26; Tuesday, Genesis 32:23-33, Matthew 9:32-38; Wednesday, Genesis 41:55-57; 42:5-7, 17-24, Matthew 10:1-7; Thursday, Genesis 44:18-21, 23-29; 45:1-5, Matthew 10:7-15; Friday (St. Benedict), Genesis 46:1-7, 28-30, Matthew 10:16-23; Saturday, Genesis 49:29-32; 50:15-26, Matthew 10:24-33

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# Dispute over access to script for 'The Passion' said to be resolved

By MARK PATTISON  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — A dispute over a scholars' group obtaining copies of an early draft of the script for Mel Gibson's film "The Passion" — apparently without authorization — has been resolved, according to a U.S. bishops' spokesman and a public relations firm handling publicity about the film.

Concern has been raised by the scholars' group and others over how the Jews will be portrayed in the film, which focuses on the last 12 hours of Jesus' life. It uses a script that is entirely in Latin and Aramaic with no subtitles.

A June 13 announcement by the public relations firm hired by Icon Productions, Gibson's movie production company, said Icon and the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops had reached "a joint agreement resolving a dispute over an unauthorized pre-production draft screenplay" of the movie, and that the USCCB had "facilitated the return of copies of the script."

Msgr. Francis Maniscalco, USCCB director of communications, told Catholic News Service June 17 that the USCCB would ask the scholars to turn in their copies to the USCCB, which would return them to Icon Productions.

The announcement, from ALR Communications, said script copies had been in the hands of an "ad hoc group" of Catholic and Jewish scholars who work with the USCCB and the Anti-Defamation League.

Eugene J. Fisher, director of Catholic-Jewish relations in the U.S. bishops' Secretariat for Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs, earlier this year had asked the producer of "The Passion" to allow a panel of Catholic and Jewish scholars to evaluate the script before a final editing of the film begins.

The ALR Communications announcement quoted a June 9 letter from Mark Chopko, USCCB general counsel,

to Icon Productions as saying, "We regret that this situation has occurred, and offer our apologies. I have further advised the scholars' group that this draft screenplay is not considered to be representative of the film and should not be the subject of further public comment."

Chopko deferred questions to Msgr. Maniscalco, who said that Icon Productions had informed the USCCB that the draft screenplay had been taken without permission and was never intended to be circulated to anyone except those authorized by Icon.

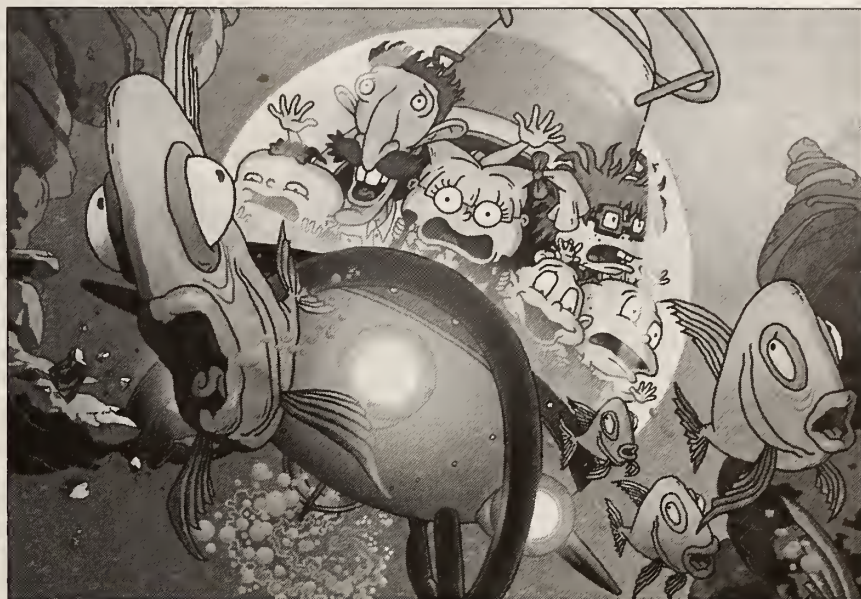
The Jewish Week, a New York-based newspaper, said in its June 13 edition that Gibson had threatened to sue the USCCB and the scholars' group, which had reportedly professed concern over possible anti-Semitic characterizations in the script. Msgr. Maniscalco declined comment on Jewish Week's assertion.

The USCCB, in a June 11 announcement about "The Passion," did not refer to any agreement with Icon Productions over copies of the draft script, but instead took exception to the content of a report on the scholars' group by the Catholic news agency Zenit. In a May 30 story, Zenit said the bishops' Committee on Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs was responsible for a "Passion" script critique undertaken by the scholars.

"Neither the bishops' Committee on Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs, nor any other committee of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, established this group, or authorized, reviewed or approved the report written by its members," said the USCCB. "The bishops' Committee on Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs knew only that the scholars' group intended to offer comments for the private consideration of the producers."

The USCCB announcement said it reserved the right to critique "The Pas-

## 'Go Wild' good for kids and adults



CNS PHOTO FROM PARAMOUNT PICTURES

Lil DeVille, Nigel Thornberry, Angelica Pickles, Dil Pickles, Chuckie Finster and Tommy Pickles take an underwater adventure in the animated feature "Rugrats Go Wild," an entertaining animated sequel pairing the characters of Nickelodeon's two most popular TV series — "Rugrats" and "The Wild Thornberrys," who find themselves marooned together on a deserted tropical island full of adventure and danger. Imparting a strong message about family values, the film packs enough punch to engage young viewers, as well as adults along for the ride. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-I — general patronage. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is G — general audiences.

sion" "after it has been presented for review," as is its policy on any film.

Paul Lauer, a publicist for "The Passion," said Icon expects to release the movie next Lent, but he also said that the film has not been screened to potential distributors. Lauer told Catholic

News Service in a June 16 telephone interview that Icon Productions may go to an "alternative" distribution route if the movie is not picked up.

Gibson, a Catholic, financed the estimated \$40 million cost of the film, which was shot in Italy.

## Catholics urged to keep open mind before seeing Gibson 'Passion' film

By CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

DENVER (CNS) — Archbishop Charles J. Chaput of Denver counseled Catholics to keep an open mind about the new Mel Gibson-produced movie "The Passion," which depicts Jesus' passion using a script that is entirely in Latin and Aramaic with no subtitles.

"If Mr. Gibson has produced an offensive film, it will fail and should fail," Archbishop Chaput said. "But the opposite is also true: If he has produced a good film, a film of beauty and power and faith, then it deserves a chance to succeed without being cut to pieces before it even opens."

Archbishop Chaput made the comments in a May 28 column in the Denver Catholic Register, his archdiocesan newspaper.

The archbishop noted the criticism that has aired from some critics and scholars who claim the movie "may encourage anti-Semitism." — something a surprised Gibson has forcefully denied.

Archbishop Chaput cited Gibson's "long and friendly collaboration with the Jewish community in Hollywood" as part of the reason the film star was surprised. "No one has yet seen the film or even the final script," he added.

"The criticism seems based on an earlier, working draft of the script that Gibson says was stolen and leaked; in other words, an inaccurate text that was acquired — to put it politely — by unauthorized means," Archbishop Chaput said.

Jesuit Father William Fulco, who teaches ancient Mediterranean studies at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles, did not write the script, but translated it into Latin and Aramaic.

The archbishop said Gibson "has a reputation as a man who takes his Christian faith, his marriage, his family and his values seriously."

Archbishop Chaput said a priest friend of his in Rome who spent time on the set with Gibson and James Caviezel, who portrays Jesus, and reviewed much of the footage, described the film as "a respectful, faithful, moving work of the heart."

"Of course, nobody has any way of knowing yet what to expect of the final product," he added. "We'll get a chance to love or criticize 'The Passion' soon enough. In the meantime, between a decent man and his critics, I'll choose the decent man every time — until the evidence shows otherwise."

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## The Pope Speaks

POPE JOHN PAUL II

### Pope hails 'steady and wise' leadership of predecessor Paul VI

BY JOHN NORTON

CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Marking the 40th anniversary of Pope Paul VI's election, Pope John Paul II hailed his predecessor as a "steady and wise guide" who helped open the church to the world without ceding to a worldly mentality.

Speaking to pilgrims at his June 25 weekly general audience, Pope John Paul said Paul VI's 15-year papacy was marked mainly by the Second Vatican Council, by "a great openness to the needs of the modern epoch," and by Pope Paul's tireless commitment to "aggiornamento," or updating, of the church.

At the same time, Pope John Paul said, his predecessor prudently "resisted the temptation of 'adapting oneself to the modern mentality,' for which he suffered difficulties, misunderstandings and "in some cases, even hostility."

"In turbulent times, he led the church with wisdom and love, prophetically defending the truth of the Gospel, the dignity of human life and the authentic progress of peoples," he said.

The pope in particular cited Paul VI's "courageous positions in defense of human life" in the encyclical "Humanae Vitae," which declared artificial contraception to be immoral, and his promotion of social justice and solidarity in the encyclical "Populorum Progressio." He also noted the "moving profession of faith" contained in the 1968 "Creed of the People of God."

Recalling that he, too, had participated in the Second Vatican Council, Pope John Paul said that, in his own pontificate, "it has been my concern to continue the pastoral action begun by him, taking inspiration from him as a father and teacher."

In particular, he cited Paul VI's innovative institution of papal travel abroad. Starting with a visit to the Holy Land during the Second Vatican Council, Pope Paul eventually made nine trips outside of Italy, which was unprecedented for popes in modern times.

Pope John Paul, who has made 101 foreign trips to 129 countries, said papal travel "today constitutes an integral part of the ministry of the successor of Peter," and should be understood as fundamentally aimed at promoting church unity and intensifying the church's missionary zeal.

The 83-year-old pontiff, who celebrates the 25th anniversary of his papal election this year, highlighted one of Paul VI's favorite sayings, taken from St. Augustine: "Feeding the Lord's flock is an office of love."

"Love is the secret of the mission of Peter," Pope John Paul said. "Love is also the secret of those who are called to imitate the Good Shepherd in guiding the people of God."

Pope Paul VI was elected by the College of Cardinals on June 21, 1963, succeeding Blessed Pope John XXIII, who had died 18 days earlier.

Pope John Paul also marked the anniversary by inaugurating a marble bust of his predecessor in the atrium of the Vatican's audience hall during a small June 24 ceremony attended by church officials and relatives of the late pontiff. The audience hall, inaugurated in 1971, was built during Pope Paul's pontificate and bears his name.

### Supporting the troops, forgetting the veterans

I was touched this spring by a letter from a reader in Massachusetts, a man who served in World War II. He is suffering from hairy cell leukemia and had requested some financial help from the Veterans Administration, but without getting much encouragement from them.

He wrote to me because he remembered a column of mine some time back about my brother, Joe Oppedisano, a veteran who also has hairy cell leukemia. I'd mentioned how my brother persisted in pursuing his claim with the VA, convinced his illness was service related; eventually he won his case. The letter writer wondered if I could help him.

I immediately called my brother, who got in touch with this man — a person who had suffered with this illness much as he had. My brother gave him good advice, and I received a subsequent letter from this good man thanking us both for advice that had paid off for him.

This is just another story that makes me wonder why so many veterans are given so little help when they return from service with maladies they never had before. The House of Representatives recently voted to slash veterans' benefits, just another in the long string of hardships thrown at men and women who have served in the military, and this included those who are veterans of the first Gulf War.

Only a short time before this, the Department of Veterans Affairs announced a plan to seek sharply increased funding for research into Gulf War illnesses. As Steve Robinson, a spokesman for the National Gulf War Resource Center, said, "We've had to fight tooth and nail to convince people that Gulf War illness was more than stress."

Yet, just this past May, the U.S. Supreme Court threw out an appeal by veterans of the first Gulf War who said they were made ill by biological agents supplied to Iraq by a U.S. research company.

For more than three decades I have followed the

## The Bottom Line

ANTOINETTE BOSCO  
CNS COLUMNIST



unbelievable treatment of veterans who became ill because of their service experiences and who were shunted aside by the U.S. government. That's because of my younger brother Joe's situation.

An Army man from 1954 to 1962, he was a victim of the U.S. Army's experimentation with chemical herbicides when he was on active duty in Panama. When my brother went to the VA to seek some financial assistance, they rejected his claim and those of his similarly afflicted buddies. Not giving up, Joe finally won his appeals in 1994 after 22 years of severe illness.

The files I have kept in these three-plus decades tell a sad story, indeed, of how our government first gives rah, rah praise to our people in uniform and then throws them aside when they become veterans in civilian clothes. Here are some of the headlines: "Sailors Were Sprayed With Nerve Gas in Cold War Test, Pentagon Says;" "Agent Orange and Cancer Are Linked, Study Shows;" "Veterans Health Care System at Breaking Point, Officials Say;" and recently, "U.S. Reports Disease Link to Gulf War."

We should honor the troops who have died in war, but equally important we should honor our veterans who are still with us by demanding that our government give them the financial and medical care they need and deserve.



## Parish Diary

FATHER PETER J. DALY  
CNS COLUMNIST

### The Catholic and Muslim women of our community

Peace is the greeting of the three great monotheist religions. We each say "Peace be with you": "Pax te cum"; "shalom aleichem"; "salam aleckem."

Nevertheless, Christians, Muslims and Jews often have not lived in peace with each other. Oceans of blood have been shed in the name of God. Often religious people give God a bad name.

This past April, in an attempt to overcome the recent and distant past, more than 250 "children of Abraham" assembled in a Washington, D.C., parish hall to start a dialogue of peace. In attendance were two cardinals of the Catholic Church, several imams from various Muslim traditions, Catholic priests and nuns, and some Protestant ministers.

Despite the presence of a lot of "official" representatives of religion, it was basically a lay group. It was just ordinary folks with an extraordinary concern.

The lecture was sponsored by lay people. The Lay Center of Foyer Unitas, a Catholic residence for lay students of theology in Rome, Italy, organized the evening.

This year the Lay Center is living the dialogue as well. Their Rome house includes not only Catholics, but also two Muslim students studying in Rome on scholarships given by the Vatican.

The title of the evening was "Christians and Muslims Together, Creating a Culture of Peace." The two presenters

were soft-spoken men of good humor.

The first speaker was Archbishop Michael Fitzgerald, an Englishman who heads the Vatican's Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue. He was followed by Abdulaziz Sachedina, an Iranian imam of the Shiite branch of Islam who is a professor of religious studies at the University of Virginia.

Archbishop Fitzgerald described the extensive, ongoing dialogue between the Vatican and various Muslim groups, especially in North Africa. Sachedina welcomed these high-level talks but noted that talking had to go beyond elites. He suggested that ordinary believers get together to talk about their faith and become friends.

One woman from our parish took this suggestion to heart. She decided to do something right where we live in rural southern Maryland. A few days after the lecture in Washington, Marijka Ulanowicz called the Southern Maryland Islamic Center, a mosque just a mile from our church. She suggested a dialogue between Catholic and Muslim women. It seemed the best way to start. Often women are able to find a common ground that eludes men.

The women of the Mosque were very willing. Their community often has felt threatened and isolated in recent months. During the Iraq war, ominous threats were made against their Mosque, which has been a peaceful part of our community for more than 20 years.

For now, the dialogue is small. There are about a half dozen women from each of our communities getting together once a month. They share a meal. They tour our houses of worship. They learn about each other's faith.

It's not much, but it's a start. If peace is to come between nations and religions, it has to be built on a foundation of trust. Maybe it has to start in an out-of-the-way place where there is already some peace.

The Catholic and Muslim women of our communities are discovering that we share a common desire, expressed in the prayer of a Jewish priest, Zechariah, the father of John the Baptist, who is mentioned in both the Koran and the New Testament. Zechariah prayed, "In the tender compassion of our God, may the dawn from on high break upon us, to shine on those who dwell in the shadow of death and to guide our feet into the way of peace."





## Light One Candle

MSGR. JIM LISANTE  
GUEST COLUMNIST

### Things that last

They say David Bloom had it all.

He was insightful and tenacious, creative and intelligent. As a television journalist, he had the respect of his peers and his network bosses at NBC.

Growing up in Edina, Minn., he later attended Pitzer College in Claremont, Calif. His first significant job was as a reporter for WKBT-TV in La Crosse, Wis. He quickly rose to news anchor there before heading off to stations in Wichita, Miami and Chicago.

He developed a reputation for being on the scene for big stories. In Florida, his coverage of Hurricane Andrew was legendary. He seems to have known no fear. His incisive intellect became apparent as he skillfully explained legal tactics during the O.J. Simpson trial. In 1997, Bloom was given the NBC White House correspondent's position. His gifted commentary on the controversial final years of the Clinton presidency earned him a coveted position as weekend anchor for NBC national news. David Bloom had come a long way.

There was his personal life as well, where he was fortunate in finding the right person for a partner. In his wife, Melanie, David Bloom by all accounts found an oasis of happiness. That joy was enhanced by the births of Nicole, Christine and Ava. When the twins were born, David also decided to share with his Catholic wife and daughters in their journey of faith and was baptized along with his children.

### Married, formerly Anglican priests

*Q. My wife and I have been Catholic all our lives. We were taught that a Roman Catholic priest cannot marry and remain a priest. Recently, however, we attended Mass near Washington. The celebrant was a former Episcopal priest, now an ordained Catholic priest. He still has his wife and family.*

*How is this possible? If this is being done, why the shortage of priests in the United States and other places? (Delaware)*

A. I'm surprised at the number of Catholics who are still unaware that we have married priests in the Latin Rite. Eastern churches, of course, even those united to Rome, have had married clergy for many centuries.

Catholic policies permitting married converts to become candidates for the priesthood are more recent, and a lot of Catholics around the country are surprised by the same experience you had.

While celibacy has been the long-time rule for priests in the Roman Rite, that requirement is a church law, one that could be changed or adjusted any time. Interestingly, some bishops at the Council of Trent (16th century) wanted the council to declare celibacy an unchangeable law of God, but the large majority of bishops did not agree. Thus, proper church authorities, primarily the pope of course, are free to modify the law of celibacy in ways considered good for the church.

The possibility of ordaining married converts was seriously raised in the last few decades. The first Roman Catholic ordination of a married former Episcopal priest took place just 20 years ago, June 29, 1983. A considerable number of others, including Episcopal and Lutheran, have followed since then.

The largest group of married Catholic priests in the United States are former Episcopal clergy. Their situation is unique. As with the Oxford Movement in England during the 19th century, Episcopal priests who leaned toward the Roman tradition felt they should remain within the Anglican tradition and work toward corporate union with Rome.

Later, many of these decided to apply individually for acceptance into the Roman Catholic Church as married candidates for ordination. They were formed within the

At the outbreak of the Iraqi war, David Bloom felt the need to be involved, to join the front lines. Already a major star at his network, he didn't want to forget what it was like to be where the news happened. He volunteered to travel with our troops. He joined the United States Army's 3rd Division, 2nd Brigade, and reported their advance from a specially equipped armored vehicle, regularly making reports to the world from the top of that vehicle via a mobile satellite platform. Through enemy fire and heavy sandstorms, Bloom kept the information coming. He even slept in that vehicle, in a tight space that allowed for little comfort or rest. In fact, those cramped conditions may have cost David Bloom his life. Just outside Baghdad, Bloom died from a pulmonary embolism. He was 39 years old.

David Bloom's young widow and children, his extended family and countless friends and co-workers gathered at St. Patrick's Cathedral for his Mass of Christian burial. Among the eulogies was one offered by NBC anchor Tom Brokaw. He remembered young David Bloom as "a warrior and a journalist, a newsman's journalist and a soldier's soldier." He died at the top of his field, an admired man, willing to put himself at risk.

At that service Bloom's brother John read something that David probably never imagined would be his last dispatch. Heading into harm's way, concerned for the well being of the troops as well as his own crew, Bloom sent an e-mail to his beloved wife, Melanie. He spoke as a man who knew that life is always fragile and about what he truly treasured. He spoke with the peace of someone who knows that two great loves should always motivate a life, the love of God and the love of those He places in our lives.

He said: "I hope and pray all my guys get out of this in one piece. But I'll tell you, Mel, I am at peace. Here I am, supposedly at the peak of professional success, but I could, frankly, care less. It's nothing compared to my relationship with you and the girls and Jesus."

When we see media personalities, it's easy to imagine that their jobs, their visibility, their star status are the things that give life its meaning. David Bloom, young, talented and brave, tells us something different. He reminds us to hold fast to the things that truly matter. David Bloom, R.I.P.

## Question Corner

FATHER JOHN DIETZEN  
CNS COLUMNIST



Catholic "system," they argued, embraced Catholic tradition and doctrine, and thought they were Catholic, except that they were not in union with the pope. Some even accepted the primacy of the bishop of Rome.

Apparently, the Roman congregations and Pope John Paul II accepted their good faith and line of reasoning, and eventually allowed their ordination as married men. They were, in other words, dispensed from the promise and commitment of celibacy when they were ordained.

On the other hand, it seems assumed that people raised Roman Catholic know the Catholic discipline of a celibate priesthood. They may therefore choose to marry or be ordained, but not both.

Would these same arguments apply to formerly ordained Lutherans and Methodists, or clergy of other faiths who join the Catholic Church? At least one prominent Lutheran clergyman, now a Catholic priest, thinks the answer could be yes, at least in some circumstances.

Many Lutherans, he said, grounding their beliefs on the Lutheran Augsburg Confessions of 1530, see themselves as temporarily separated from Rome and working for reunion. They might be received on the same basis as Episcopalians, with married men having the same possibility of priesthood.

The Roman Catholic policy for ordaining married converts is still developing. Many factors inevitably will enter the discussion.

## Spirituality for Today

FATHER JOHN CATOIR  
CNS COLUMNIST



### How I see it: When a priest is falsely accused

In virtually every U.S. diocese, plaintiffs are suing the church to get cash awards for the alleged sexual misconduct of priests. Many of these cases are not related to child-abuse accusations, and there are many false accusations among them.

Innocent priests are being disgraced.

As soon as any allegation is made, the bishop must call the prosecutor's office. Guilty or innocent, the humiliation begins. The local newspapers print the story, and the lay people are duly shocked. The other priests begin wondering who could be next.

Suppose an accused priest is really innocent. Besides being personally devastated, he is stripped of his faculties and forbidden to perform priestly functions.

How can the priest defend himself once the burden of proving his innocence is thrust on him?

If the priest were guilty, he would say that he is innocent; but he does say that he is innocent, therefore he must be guilty.

The very failure to prove innocence is treated as evidence of guilt. This is wrong. The burden of proof should always be on the accuser, not the accused.

Diocesan review boards are supposed to protect against every kind of abuse, but no matter what they do they know they could be wrong. Their job is not to investigate. They are supposed to weigh the evidence gathered by others. Sometimes it is flimsy at best. They tend to vote against the priest rather than risk exonerating a guilty priest.

Following the safest course, they say that the charges are at least minimally credible. This action seems reasonable, but in the court of public opinion the accused priest immediately is deemed guilty. Thus the crime of false accusation is compounded.

The priest, having already been stripped of his reputation, now has to wait months for any sign of vindication. Meanwhile he is depressed and virtually ruined.

Church law requires that a priest be considered innocent until the contrary is proven in a church court. He can be found guilty by the judges only if the evidence against him is compelling beyond the shadow of a doubt.

Those who accuse falsely need to be reminded of Canon 1390, No. 2, of the Code of Canon Law, which states, "One who furnishes an ecclesiastical superior with any calumnious denunciation of an offense, or who otherwise injures the good reputation of another, can be punished with a just penalty." No mention is made of the nature of the penalty.

It seems to me that the review board should be very careful about cooperating in a false accusation. It is a serious matter to destroy the life of an innocent priest. It also sets up a chain reaction. Other priests begin seeing their bishop not as a friend but as a potential enemy. This is not fair either to the bishop or to the priests.

Cardinal Avery Dulles predicted this would happen if the present set of norms were adopted. We should have listened to him.

Everyone agrees with Pope John Paul II. There is no room in the priesthood for pedophiles, but the remedy that roots them out is now destroying the lives of innocent priests.

This is not just, and it should not be allowed to stand.



## OLG students graduate, rack up awards

GREENSBORO — Eighth-grade graduates of Our Lady of Grace School were recognized and honored at a special awards assembly May 29.

The graduates were:

Ylora Galicia Acosta, Lauren Ann Anderson, Bradley Robert Biltz, Erica Lynn Boehler, Ryan Packard Breen, Laura Kristine Butler, Alexandra Maria Cupito, Dominic Paul Dascoli II, Chad Benjamin Davis, Kelsey Lauren Donahue, Theresa Elizabeth Fernandez, Kelly Kathryn Finn, Sarah Katherine Forman, Christopher Michael Ganim, Hannah Elizabeth Gonzales, Margaret Elizabeth Hallinan, Simeon Mark Henkle, Matthew Scott Hilderbrandt, Jennifer Ryan Hinkley, Jill Marie Howell, Geoffrey Lee Hurin, Patrick Vincent Jackson, Blaine William Karper, Elizabeth Marie King, Megan Danielle Lonergan, Daniel Joseph Mainhart, Philip Westwarren McClamroch, Margaret Mary Minton, Anthony Fitzgerald Nusdeo, Amanda Adaobi Oha, Katharine Carole O'Keeffe, Michael Francis O'Shea V, Christian Sergio

Petrangeli, Jr., Katie Lynne Quigley, Caroline Elise Waters, Sarah Elizabeth Weber, Christopher Daly Woodstock, and David Hurley Zimmerman.

The Faith Award went to P. J. Dascoli and Ali Cupito; the Marc Marzullo Award went to Sarah Weber and Theresa Fernandez; and the Knights of Columbus Citizenship Award went to Maggie Hallinan.

The students with the highest academic averages were also recognized in the following subjects:

Algebra I was P. J. Dascoli; Pre-Algebra was Margaret Minton; Computer Technology was P. J. Dascoli and Ali Cupito; Language Arts was P. J. Dascoli and Mike O'Shea; Literature was Sarah Forman and Ali Cupito; Music was Sarah Weber and Patrick Jackson; Physical Education was Katie Quigley, Chris Petrangeli, Ali Cupito, Anthony Nusdeo and Matt Hilderbrandt; Science was P. J. Dascoli and Jennifer Hinkley; Social Studies was P. J. Dascoli and Mike O'Shea; Spanish was P. J. Dascoli and Patrick Jackson.

A-honor roll for the year awards went to P. J. Dascoli, Sarah Forman, Maggie Hallinan, Ali Cupito and Patrick Jackson.

A-B honor roll for the year awards went to Ylora Acosta, Erica Boehler, Ryan Breen, Katie Quigley, Caroline Waters, Sarah Weber, Chad Davis, Hannah Gonzales, Matt Hilderbrandt, Jennifer Hinkley, Beth King, Margaret Minton, Katie O'Keeffe and Mike O'Shea.

Perfect Attendance awards went to Blaine Karper and Mike O'Shea.

Student Council service awards went to Kelsey Donahue, Jill Howell, Mike O'Shea, Katie Quigley, Hannah Gonzales, Katie O'Keeffe and Chris Petrangeli.

The church choir service award went to Amanda Oha.

Altar servers awards went to P. J. Dascoli, Chris Ganim, Jill Howell, Daniel Mainhart, Margaret Minton, Chris Petrangeli, Sarah Forman, Matt Hilderbrandt, Geoffrey Hurin, Philip McClamroch, Katie O'Keeffe and Sarah Weber.

Presidential Academic Excellence awards went to Ali Cupito, P. J. Dascoli,

Sarah Forman, Hannah Gonzales, Matt Hilderbrandt, Jennifer Hinkley, Patrick Jackson, Beth King, Katie O'Keeffe, Mike O'Shea, Katie Quigley and Sarah Weber.

The Presidential Academic Achievement award went to Kristie Butler.

Battle of the Books Competitive Team was Ylora Acosta, Ryan Breen, Ali Cupito, Kelly Finn, Sarah Forman, Geoffrey Hurin, Mike O'Shea and Sarah Weber.

MathCounts Team was Ali Cupito, P. J. Dascoli, Amanda Oha and Mike O'Shea.

Geography Bee Participants were Ylora Acosta, Katie Quigley, and Mike O'Shea.

N.C. Bridge Building Competitive Team was Ali Cupito, Geoffrey Hurin, Katie Quigley, P. J. Dascoli and Patrick Jackson.

Optimist Oratorical Contest entrants were Ali Cupito, Geoffrey Hurin, Patrick Jackson, Chris Petrangeli, P. J. Dascoli, Hannah Gonzales, and Katie O'Keeffe.

The Spelling Bee winner was Mike O'Shea.

## Classifieds

### EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

**ASSISTANT EDITOR:** Excellent opportunity for Journalism graduate to work full time as Assistant Editor for weekly, statewide Catholic publication with approx. 29k household circulation. Previous related experience/ internship preferred. Travel required. Knowledge of Catholic faith, Quark Xpress, Adobe Photoshop, strong writing skills and some photography experience required. For consideration mail or fax resume with salary requirements and non-returnable clips/photos to: HR, 1662 Ingram Rd., Charleston, SC 29407. 843-402-9071

**ASSISTANT REGIONAL DIRECTOR:** Church World Service/CROP. Church-related relief, development agency seeks self-motivated individual to work from our Durham, NC office. Primary responsibilities for the Assistant Regional Direct include planning, implementing and evaluating a variety of activities with a major emphasis on organizing community-based special event fund raising activities (CROP WALKS) through a network of volunteers. Significant amounts of time will be spent recruiting and training volunteers in order to generate financial resources for and increase awareness about the agency and its mission. Extensive travel throughout North and South Carolina is required. Competitive salary plus benefits. Send résumé and cover letter to be received by 7/18/03 to: Church World Service, Attn: KCL, PO Box 968, Elkhart, IN 46515. EOE www.churchworldservice.org

**DIRECTOR OF FAITH FORMATION:** Mountain parish of 600 families is seeking the right person for a full-time position. A master's degree in related field desired. Bachelor's degree is welcome. The position requires organizational, human resource, leadership, pastoral and computer skills. Responsibilities include, but not limited to Elementary, Middle School, High School, and Adult Education. Salary is commensurate with experience. Benefits package is available to full-time employees. Please send résumé with references and salary expectations to: Director of Faith Formation Search, Sacred Heart Catholic Church, + Brian Berg Lane, Brevard, North Carolina 28712. Attention: Reverend Carl Del Giudice, Pastor.

**DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRY:** St. Aloysius Catholic Church seeks energetic, motivated individual for full-time position in 1,300-family parish. Successful candidate will build upon a well-established program. Responsibilities include planning and directing music for weekend liturgies, weddings, funerals, etc.; direct 3 adult (2 English & 1 Hispanic) and children's choirs; develop cantors. Keyboard skills required; knowledge of other instruments helpful. Educational requirements include master's degree in Music or related discipline. Previous experience preferred. Competitive salary and benefits. Position available Summer 2003. Send resume and references by July 12th to: Search Committee, St. Aloysius Catholic Church, 921 Second St. NE, Hickory, NC 28601.

**MUSIC DIRECTOR:** St. Raphael Catholic Church, a 4000-family multicultural (1/3 Hispanic) parish seeks a full time Director of Music to expand the music program. The Director will conduct the Chorale and have overall coordination of multiple programs to develop the musical worship of the parish. The parish has a Chorale, Children's Choir, Handbell Choir, Hispanic Choir, and Contemporary Choir. St. Raphael, located in Raleigh, North Carolina, has a newly expanded facility with new offices, a dedicated rehearsal room, and music storage space. The sanctuary contains a grand piano and organ. The successful candidate will be proficient in piano, organ, and voice, be knowledgeable of Roman Catholic liturgy, have choral directing experience, and cantor training skills. Salary commensurate with experience. Practicing Catholic preferred. Please send application to: Music Search Committee, St. Raphael Catholic Church, 5801 Falls of Neuse Rd, Raleigh, NC 27609.

**MUSIC MINISTER:** Holy Redeemer Parish, located on the Outer Banks of Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, is seeking a full-time Minister of Music. The position includes playing for all scheduled Masses, weddings and funerals and directing the choirs. The parish recently installed a Marshall Brothers pipe organ built in 1870, containing 1,316 pipes and 23 ranks. The organ was completely rebuilt in 1995 and installed in Holy Redeemer in 2001. Knowledge of Spanish and Spanish liturgical music is helpful. Please send resumes to the Music Ministry Search Committee, P. O. Box 510, Kitty Hawk, NC 27949.

**PARISH DRE/YOUTH MINISTER** needed. St. Egbert Parish (800 families) is located on the beautiful coast of NC and is seeking an energetic faith-filled full-time person to lead our total faith formation program (pre-K through adult education includes youth ministry and coordinating RCIA). Position effective July 1. Salary and ben-

efits commensurate with education and experience. Please submit resume and references to: St. Egbert Church, 1706 Evans St., Morehead City, NC 28557 Fax: (252) 726-2232 or email: stegbert@starfishnet.com

**PRINCIPAL:** Church of the Nativity Catholic School is seeking an enthusiastic and motivated leader for our community for the 2003-2004 school year with a projected enrollment of 140, K4-8, students. Our principal must have the passion and leadership ability to help us to continue to foster our commitment to academic excellence. The successful candidate must be a practicing Catholic and hold a master's degree, with at least five years experience in teaching, school leadership, or administrative management. Applicants should hold, or be eligible to hold a South Carolina Principal's Certificate. If you are interested in joining our dedicated staff and talented student body, send by June 30th a letter of interest, current resume, and salary requirements to: Church of the Nativity Catholic School Search Committee, 1061 Folly Road, Charleston, SC 29412 or fax to: (843) 795-2714.

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**YOUTH MINISTER:** Saint Pius X Catholic Church, Greensboro, NC. Vibrant parish of 1000 families seeks leader to work with middle school, high school, and young adults on a full time basis. Must be willing to work as a team member with pastoral staff, offer a comprehensive youth ministry approach, and incorporate parish and public school students into groups and activities. Degree in pastoral ministry or related field preferred. Experience a plus, but not necessary. Job includes benefits. Salary dependent on experience

and degree. For consideration, send resume and references to: Saint Pius X Catholic Church, Youth Minister Search Committee, 2210 North Elm Street, Greensboro, NC, 27408. Phone: (336) 272-4681 e-mail: piusxfaith@aol.com

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# Couple travels to Bolivia to help children in need

By DIANNE M.A. RIGGS  
CORRESPONDENT

WEAVERVILLE — Sue and Bernie Koesters left everything they knew to embark on a six-month adventure in Bolivia, one of South America's poorest countries.

Sue, a nurse practitioner with an Asheville hospice, and Bernie, a controller for a non-profit corporation, were matched through Catholic Medical Mission Board with Amanacer Foundation in Cochabamba, Bolivia. Amanacer (meaning "daybreak"), a program run by the Daughters of Charity, provides group homes to help impoverished children go to school, learn a trade or go to college.

Most of the homes serve boys at different levels of growth and commitment. Another facility serves women and young girls who have been physically or sexually abused and living on the streets.

Sue worked in a home for 180 orphaned or abused children, from infants to age seven. She also worked two days a week at a free health clinic in a rural area an hour north of the city, where she collected basic patient information, saw patients with the doctor and taught classes. Bernie taught in a woodworking shop for older teen boys who were part of a long-term rehabilitation program.

The Koesters, parishioners of St. Andrew the Apostle Church in Mars Hill,



COURTESY PHOTO

Sue Koesters, a parishioner of St. Andrew the Apostle in Mars Hill, holds a baby at a rural clinic in Bolivia. Koesters, a nurse practitioner, volunteered at the clinic two days a week.

described the poverty of Cochabamba as "eye-opening," with many people — adults and children — begging on the streets and struggling to exist.

"It was hard to know the difference between organized beggars and real need," said Bernie. "If we went somewhere, sitting on a park bench, we would be surrounded by kids wanting to shine shoes." There is about 30 percent unem-

ployment in Bolivia, he said.

The home at which Sue worked was acquired by the Daughters of Charity at the request of the Bolivian government in the early 1990s due to the high death rate of local children. Sue's work with the children included performing physical exams, preventive care issues, vision screening and as a caregiver to babies who would often

come in malnourished. Part of Bernie's duties was to overhaul and install woodworking equipment provided by a grant. To supplement costs of the program, the shop earned money by selling furniture made by the teens, whom Bernie described as hardworking. Other trades taught through Amanacer include metal work, bread making and agriculture.

The number of volunteers and religious sisters of different orders working in Cochabamba surprised the Koesters.

"We didn't expect the variety of people from other countries working as missionaries," said Sue.

Despite their hardships, the people of Cochabamba were outgoing and friendly, said the Koesters. They e-mailed photos to St. Andrew the Apostle parishioners, who raised money to help pay for the chemotherapy of a native Incan woman at the rural clinic.

The Koesters say keeping their lives simple over the years allows them to do the mission work they love. They felt very supported by church members and friends, who took care of their mail and yard work while they were gone.

"We have a lot, and wanted to give back," she said. "It also gives you satisfaction."

"It was a process that led us to be able to step out in faith that all this would come together," said Bernie.

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# Sister Eileen McLoughlin accepts new mission

*Missionary Servant reassigned to motherhouse*

By KAREN A. EVANS  
STAFF WRITER

CHARLOTTE — On the eve of her 73rd birthday, Sister Eileen McLoughlin, a Missionary Servant of the Most, Blessed Trinity (MSBT), has accepted a three-year assignment as coordinator of her order's motherhouse in Philadelphia.

Since 1983, Sister Eileen has served as supervisor of counseling for the Charlotte Regional Office (CRO) of Catholic Social Services (CSS).

## From the beginning

When the Diocese of Charlotte was formed in 1972, three MSBT sisters were assigned to found CSS a year later. For the next seven years, they comprised the entire staff of CSS for the Diocese of Charlotte.

In 1980, Elizabeth Thurbee and Jeannie Beall were hired as the diocese's first lay caseworkers.

In 1983, Sister Barbara DeMoranville told Thurbee and Beall the MSBT were sending a new sister to work at CSS. "What's she like?" they asked.

"Like no other sister you've met," said Sister Barbara, according to Thurbee. "Don't be surprised if she drives up on a motorcycle."

At a farewell party June 13, almost 200 friends and co-workers gathered to honor Sister Eileen. Several themes emerged during a roast of this much-admired sister: her aggressive driving, both on the road and on the golf course; the tough but wise advice she dispensed in her counselor's office; her capacity as spiritual director, friend and mentor; and her devotion to her vocation and God.

## A ministry

Sister Eileen was educated by the



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

Sister Eileen McLoughlin addresses the 200 friends and coworkers who gathered in her honor June 13. After entertainment by the Rince na h'Eirann Irish dancers, Sister Eileen was "roasted" by several friends. She was also presented with a photo composite from her 20 years of work at CSS, seen at right.

Jesuits — she graduated from St. Joseph University in Philadelphia and earned her master's degree in social work from Catholic University. She specializes in the field of chemical dependency, including counseling, family interventions and hosting Alcoholics Anonymous retreats.

"It's not a job, it's really a ministry to help people who come to us who are in pain," said Sister Eileen. "(We) help them realize God's love for them and to help them increase their self-esteem and to empower them to solve their own problems."

As an active member of St. Peter Church, she is involved with working with the poor and disenfranchised, especially through Habitat for Humanity, Room in the Inn and the El Salvador Interest Group.

## A new mission

Sister Barbara, who is now the Reverend Mother of the MSBT, asked Sister Eileen to take a change in ministry and be the coordinator of the motherhouse in Philadelphia, which

houses about 80 retired sisters, ages 75 to 104. Her duties will include overseeing the emotional, physical and spiritual needs of the sisters.

"When Sister Barbara asked me to pray about taking a new ministry," she said. "I told her, 'I could give you a hundred reasons why I didn't want to leave Charlotte, but I couldn't give one why I needed to stay.'"

Part of Sister Eileen's daily prayer is "relieve me of the bondages of self that I may do your will."

"I've been saying it probably 25 years," she said. "It came to a point where I said to myself 'Put your money where your mouth is.' To stay in one place 20 years is a long time. Part of the life as a missionary is to go where the need is. The need is there right now, so I said yes. I'm very sad to leave Charlotte, but I am at peace with my decision because I know it's the right decision."

Early in her career, Sister Eileen spent eight years working in an orphanage in Oklahoma with 150 children between the ages of three and 16.

"Here I am going from one extreme to the other — from the little kids, which I loved, and now to a retirement community where hopefully I'll bring love and compassion."

Sister Eileen stressed that this is not retirement for her, merely a reassignment.

"I hope to return to Charlotte at the end of this assignment," she said.

Contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans by calling (704) 370-3354 or e-mail [karevans@charlottediocese.org](mailto:karevans@charlottediocese.org).



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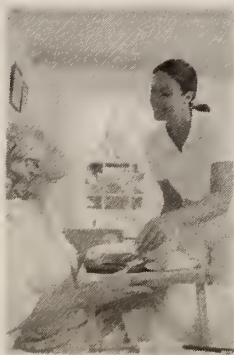
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justice and peace shall kiss.  
Truth shall spring out of the  
earth, and justice shall look down  
from heaven.

Psalm 85:11-12

# The Catholic NEWS & HERALD

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JULY 11, 2003

SERVING CATHOLICS IN WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA IN THE DIOCESE OF CHARLOTTE

VOLUME 12 Nº 38

## U.S. bishops discuss church problems, vote on two major texts

By JERRY FILTEAU  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

ST. LOUIS — The U.S. Catholic bishops discussed serious problems facing the U.S. church and voted on new directories for catechetics and deacon formation at their June 19-21 spring meeting in St. Louis.

Three of their five half-day sessions were closed to the media, but reporters were briefed on the general nature and content of those sessions.

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## Mysteries wrapped in shroud

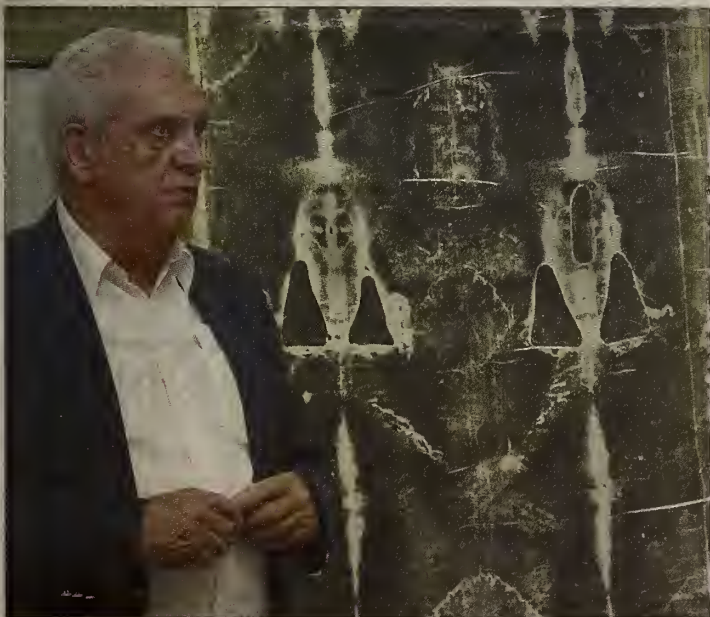


PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

Kevin Moran unravels the history of the Shroud of Turin in a presentation at Queen of the Apostles Church in Belmont. Moran is a member of three Holy Shroud study groups and is a parishioner of Queen of the Apostles Church.

Behind Moran is a life-size negative image of the shroud, which clearly shows a man bearing the wounds of a crucifixion.

The Shroud of Turin has been a source of widespread debate between those who believe it to be the burial cloth of Jesus Christ and those who claim it is a forgery. For full story, see page 5.

## At Mass in the field of the Lord



PHOTO BY JOANITA M. NELLENBACH

People kneel in the dirt and grass as altar server Carlos Parra censes and Father C. Morris Boyd elevates the Eucharist during a Hispanic Mass held in a field in Bethel, near Canton, June 22.

## Priests bring sacrament to Hispanic farm workers

By JOANITA M.  
NELLENBACH  
CORRESPONDENT

BETHEL, N.C. — The woman asked for the sacrament of reconciliation. She and the priest were standing on a dirt lane bounded by old single-wide trailers, farm machinery, cars and pickup trucks, with mountains in the background.

Finding a place where they could sit behind a car, Father C. Morris Boyd heard the woman's confession. He and Augustinian Father Francis Barr had just concelebrated Mass for some 60 Hispanics, many of them farm workers, amid fields of tomatoes, pep-

pers and melons near Canton in Haywood County the evening of June 22.

"It was really amazing," Father Boyd said after Mass. "The Lord was here in the sacrament, and the love was here as well. Many of these people work in these fields so we can eat. [Mass here] is a way of saying 'thank you' to them. We forget sometimes who does the backbreaking work."

Father Boyd, former pastor of St. Francis of Assisi in Franklin, returned to the Diocese of Charlotte in early June from a yearlong sabbatical in Mexico, where he studied Spanish and worked at two parishes totaling 64,000 pa-

rishioners and three priests.

Back in North Carolina, Father Boyd celebrated Hispanic Masses at Immaculate Conception in Canton, the mission church of St. John in Waynesville, before assuming administrator duties at St. Francis of Assisi Church in Jefferson and its mission, St. Francis of Rome in Sparta, July 8.

Father Barr, parochial vicar of Our Lady of Good Council in Methuen, Mass., was visiting his brother Augustinians in Haywood County. Prior to Mass, a woman asked in Spanish for

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### Former Phoenix bishop pleads innocent in hit-and-run

PHOENIX (CNS) — Bishop Thomas J. O'Brien, former head of the Phoenix Diocese, pleaded innocent at his arraignment July 7 on a felony charge of leaving the scene of a fatal accident.

The 67-year-old bishop abruptly resigned as bishop of Phoenix June 18, the day after he was charged in the June 14 accident. His next court appearance, for a pretrial conference, was set for Aug. 11. Bishop O'Brien's is free on \$45,000 bail. If convicted, he could face up to 45 months in prison.

Prosecutors say the bishop was not impaired by alcohol when he allegedly struck a pedestrian, Jim Reed, the night of June 14. Reed, 43, was crossing the street in the dark in the middle of the block and tests revealed he had a blood alcohol level more than twice the state's legal limit for driving.

Bishop O'Brien, whose car was identified by witnesses at the scene, said he thought he had hit a dog or cat or that someone had hit the car with a rock. Authorities say it is unlikely he would be facing charges if he had remained on the scene.

Police said the bishop's car was the first of two vehicles that hit Reed. They were still searching for the second car, which also left the scene.

### Bishop Barbarito says he hopes to be overseer, healer in Palm Beach

PALM BEACH GARDENS, Fla. (CNS) — Shock was the word Bishop Gerald M. Barbarito used to describe how he felt after being informed by church officials that Pope John Paul II had appointed him fifth bishop of Palm Beach. "Shock is actually an understatement," Bishop Barbarito told The Florida Catholic, Palm Beach diocesan newspaper, in an interview following a July 1 press conference held at the Cathedral of St. Ignatius Loyola in Palm Beach Gardens. Keenly aware of the hurt and pain still felt by many in the Diocese of Palm Beach, where two previous bishops resigned in sexual misconduct scandals, Bishop Barbarito said he plans to

## Israeli Arabs pray in front of Nazareth's Catholic Church



CNS PHOTO FROM REUTERS

Israeli Arabs pray in front of Nazareth's main Christian shrine, the Basilica of the Annunciation, July 4. Dozens of Muslims prayed at the site in protest of the demolition of the foundation of a proposed mosque. Israel scrapped the foundation July 1, ending a project that had angered the Vatican and raised religious tensions in the city where Jesus grew up. Officials are negotiating to find an appropriate alternative site for the mosque.

take on two roles in his new ministry — as an overseer and as a healer.

### Priests, religious decline, but U.S. Catholics more numerous

NEW PROVIDENCE, N.J. (CNS) — While a decrease in the number of priests and religious in the United States continued, the number of Catholics in the country nevertheless kept pace with the U.S. population growth in 2002. The 2003 edition of the Official Catholic Directory, known in church circles as the Kenedy Directory for its publisher's imprint, showed that although the number of priests and religious continued to decrease, the number of Catholics in the country increased by about 2 percent to 66.4 million, a level on par with the

overall population growth rate. Catholics continue to represent about 23 percent of the total U.S. population. The directory includes detailed information about church institutions and personnel in each of the 208 U.S. archdioceses and dioceses as well as statistical information about everything from the number of new parishes to the number of sisters teaching in each diocese.

### Bring center, edges together on migration, conference told

WASHINGTON (CNS) — As a community that represents both the center of American society and its fringes, the Catholic Church's role in immigration must be to make connections between the people from both

those segments, participants in a migration conference were told July 6. "We are a center/edge church," Father J. Bryan Hehir, president of Catholic Charities USA, told the nearly 800 people attending the National Migration Conference. Generations after the big influxes of Catholic immigrants from Western Europe, the descendants of those immigrants are now a dominant part of the main U.S. political and social structure, he explained. But Catholics also are heavily represented among the new immigrants from Eastern Europe, Asia, Central and South America, the Balkans and Africa, he said. And church teaching says Catholics have responsibilities to protect the human rights of all immigrants, no matter what their religion.

### Timing not right for papal trip to Mongolia, Vatican says

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope John Paul II has decided to forgo a visit this summer to Mongolia because the timing is not yet right, Vatican officials said. The 83-year-old pontiff still wants to visit the northern Asian country, nestled between China and Russia, and plans for the trip could be completed for next year, the officials said. The idea of a papal visit to Mongolia, which has fewer than 200 Catholics, has been in the works for months, and a papal advance team traveled there in February to explore the possibility.

### Be chaste, use summer vacation to boost prayer life, pope tells youth

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — As summer vacation season approached, Pope John Paul II offered young people two pieces of advice: Be chaste, and use your holiday time to boost your prayer life. The pope made his remarks during a midday blessing in St. Peter's Square July 6, the close of centenary celebrations of the death of St. Maria Goretti, an 11-year-old Italian girl who died from stab wounds inflicted by a neighbor after she refused his sexual advances. The pope said the saint reminded young people even today that true happiness requires courage, a spirit of sacrifice, and a willingness even to die to be faithful to God's commandments.

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## Diocesan planner

### Upcoming Parish Events July

**16 CHARLOTTE** — Father Frank Pavone, national director of Priests for Life, will present a pro-life seminar at Our Lady of the Assumption Church, 4207 Shamrock Dr., tonight. The evening will begin with Benediction and the rosary for life at 7 p.m. Father Pavone will speak 7:30-9:30 p.m. For details, call Terri DeLuca at (704) 888-6060 or delucajnj@netzero.net  
**16 HUNTERSVILLE** — Natural Family Planning classes are being held the third Wednesday of every month at 7 p.m. at St. Mark Catholic Church, 14740 Stumptown Rd., Room 200. Classes are taught by Dr. Matthew Harrison. All are welcome to attend, no registration required. Call (704) 948-0231 for directions and more information.

**17 GREENSBORO** — Sister Josita Marks, retreat director for the Franciscan Center, will present "Where am I? How am I? Who am I?" at St. Mary Church, 812 Duke St., 12:10-1 p.m. today. This is a reflective look at the inner landscape of life so the presence of God in all events and encounters may be better recognized. Lunch is included with donation. Please preregister by calling (336) 273-2554.

**18 CHARLOTTE** — St. Luke Church, 13700 Lawyers Rd., will host a supper 6-9 p.m. in the Family Life Center. Admission is one non-perishable food item per person. Ted Frazer, a parishioner of St. Peter and leader of Charlotte Coalition for Moratorium Now, will be discussing current North Carolina death penalty legislation and related topics. All are welcome. For more information, call Laura Lancy at (704) 764-8169.

**18 CHARLOTTE** — Thank God It's Friday (TGIF), a weekly support group for separated and divorced women, meets at 7 p.m. in the St. Matthew

Church parish center, 8015 Ballantyne Pkwy., with its monthly potluck dinner and a guest speaker from the community. TGIF is a healing ministry sponsored by Catholic Social Services, Charlotte Regional Office and St. Matthew Church. For details, call Trish Wilson at (704) 543-8986.

**20 CHARLOTTE** — St. Thomas Aquinas Church, 1400 Suther Rd., will be hosting an Ultreya today at 1:30 p.m. There will be a family potluck and childcare will be available. For more information, call Dan Hines at (704) 544-6665 or visit [www.charlottediocese.org](http://www.charlottediocese.org). To receive Cursillo information via e-mail: [bmayer@alltel.net](mailto:bmayer@alltel.net).

**21 ASHEVILLE** — The St. Martin De Porres Pro-Chapter of the Dominican Laity will be meeting tonight and every third Monday at 7 p.m. in St. Justin's Center at the Basilica of St. Lawrence, 97 Haywood St. Inquirers are welcome. For more information, contact Beverly Reid, OPL, at (828) 253-6676.

**21 CHARLOTTE** — Christians in Ca-



# Liberian children seek protection at U.S. compound in Monrovia



CNS PHOTO FROM REUTERS

Liberian children, displaced by conflict in the capital of Monrovia, seek protection July 1 in a compound that is part of the U.S. Embassy. Despite its reputation as a safe haven, 21 people died when rockets fell there a week earlier. Thousands of civilians have been killed or wounded in the recent insurgency against the government of President Charles Taylor.

## Pope expresses sorrow at death of Venezuelan cardinal

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope John Paul II expressed sorrow at the death of Venezuelan Cardinal Ignacio Velasco Garcia of Caracas, praising him as a "zealous and selfless pastor." In a July 7 telegram of condolence, the pope said Cardinal Velasco, 74, had shown "great dedication to the cause of the Gospel" and had served his people "with much prudence and pastoral charity." The cardinal, a Salesian who headed the Archdiocese of Caracas since 1995, died in the early morning hours July 7 after a long illness, according to Venezuelan media.

## Catholic's role in establishing U.S. freedoms outlined in new book

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (CNS) — Charles Carroll, as one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, helped established democracy in America. As the pre-eminent Catholic

politician of his day and the only Catholic signer of the Declaration of Independence, he worked much of his life to win political and civil rights for American Catholics. "Carroll almost single-handedly obtained religious freedom and political rights for American Catholics, who formerly had suffered from oppressive penal laws which denied them the right to vote and to worship in public," said Scott McDermott of Nashville, the author of a new book, "Charles Carroll of Carrollton: Faithful Revolutionary." McDermott hopes through his book Carroll's life will be remembered by more people, especially Catholics. "He set a great example and, based on his contribution and that of the Catholic soldiers in the American Revolution, of whom there were many, Americans realized that you could be a Catholic and also a good citizen," McDermott said in an interview with the Tennessee Register, newspaper of the Nashville Diocese.

reer Transition is a ministry of St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy., devoted to helping people in career crises. The meetings will take place on the first and third Mondays of every month 7-9 p.m. in the conference room. For more information, call Rev. Mr. Jim Hamrlik at (704) 576-0456.

**21 CHARLOTTE** — The Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians Division 1 Mecklenburg County-St. Brigid, an Irish-Catholic social and charitable inter-parish group, will meet at 7:30 p.m. at St. Gabriel Church, 3016 Providence Rd. Anyone interested in their Irish-Catholic roots, call Jeanmarie Schuler at (704) 554-0720 for further information.

**22 GREENSBORO** — "Theology on Tap" sessions will be held at Anton's on Battleground at 7 p.m. For more information, e-mail greensborotot@yahoo.com.

**23 GUILFORD COUNTY** — The Ancient Order of Hibernians Guilford County Division, the oldest and largest order of Irish Catholic men, is looking

for more Irish Catholic men to join them for meetings, educational seminars and social events. Contact Michael Slane at (336) 665-9264 for time and location.

**23 SYLVA** — St. Mary Church will be offering a four-part series on praying the "Prayer of the Church," as it is prayed by priests and religious as well as a growing number of lay people around the world. The monthly sessions are scheduled for Wednesday evenings following the 5:30 p.m. Mass, 6-7 p.m. Session III will be "Seasons, Solemnities and Feasts" that will cover the special prayers and readings which replace the usual ones for seasons and feasts of the Lord and will introduce the use of the annual guide. As materials must be prepared, please call the office (828) 586-9496 to preregister.

**24 GASTONIA** — An interfaith prayer vigil for peace will be held 7-8 p.m. at Lutheran Chapel Church, 702 N. New Hope Rd. For details, please call LCC at (704) 864-6491, or Dennis Teall-Fleming, director of faith formation at Queen of Apostles Catholic Church, at



# Pastoral Assignments

Msgr. Mauricio W. West, diocesan administrator, announces the following pastoral changes:

## Effective July 8, 2003

### Appointments of Administrators

(Pastors could not be appointed, as the See has been vacant for less than one year.)

Father Mark Lamprich

From: Pastor, St. Vincent de Paul Church, Charlotte  
To: Administrator, St. Mark Church, Huntersville

Father Mark Lawlor

From: Pastor, St. Francis of Assisi Church, Jefferson  
To: Administrator, St. Vincent de Paul Church, Charlotte

Father Kurt Fohn

From: Administrator, St. Lucien Church, Spruce Pine  
To: Administrator, St. Phillip the Apostle Church, Statesville

Father Christopher Gober

From: Parochial Vicar, St. Gabriel Church, Charlotte  
To: Administrator, St. Lucien Church, Spruce Pine

Father Shawn O'Neal

From: Parochial Vicar, Sacred Heart Church, Salisbury  
To: Administrator, St. Joseph Church, Bryson City

Father Frank Seabo

From: Administrator, St. Joseph Church, Bryson City  
To: Administrator, St. Margaret Mary Church, Swannanoa

Father Joseph Zuschmidt, OSFS

To: Administrator, Queen of the Apostles, Belmont

Father C. Morris Boyd

From: Sabbatical leave  
To: Temporary administrator, St. Francis of Assisi Church, Jefferson

### Appointments of Parochial Vicars

Father Johnathan Hanic

From: Parochial Vicar, St. Patrick Cathedral, Charlotte  
To: Parochial Vicar, St. Leo the Great Church, Winston-Salem

Father Lawrence LoMonaco

From: Parochial Vicar, St. Leo the Great Church, Winston-Salem  
To: Parochial Vicar, St. Patrick Cathedral, Charlotte

Father Julio Dominguez

Newly ordained  
To: Parochial Vicar, Sacred Heart Church, Salisbury

Father Jose Enrique Gonzalez-Gaytan

Newly ordained  
To: Parochial Vicar, St. Aloysius Church, Hickory

Father Matthew Buettner

Newly ordained  
To: Parochial Vicar, St. Gabriel Church, Charlotte

### Other Assignments

Msgr. Joseph Kerin

From: Pastor, St. Mark Church, Huntersville  
To: Retirement, at his request

Father Andrew Latsko

From: Pastor, St. Margaret Mary Church, Swannanoa  
To: Retirement, at his request

(704) 825-9600, ext. 26, or teallfleming@yahoo.com. People of all faiths and denominations are welcome.

**24 CHARLOTTE** — St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Pkwy., will host an Ultreya weekend for men July 24-27. For more information, call Dan Hines at (704) 544-6665.

**26 CLEMMONS** — Holy Family Church, 4820 Kinnamon Rd., will host a "Pray for Healing" program today 9 a.m.-12 p.m. The program will present spiritual help with personal issues including separation or divorce, loss of a spouse and other situations. All are welcome. A light breakfast and lunch will be served. Please R.S.V.P. to Nancy Creel at (336) 659-0377 by July 20.

**26 SALISBURY** — School of Leaders will meet at St. Matthew Church today at 4:30 p.m. For more information, call Dan Hines at (704) 544-6665 or visit www.charlottecursillo.org. To receive Cursillo information via e-mail contact bmayer@alltell.net.

**27 HENDERSONVILLE** — The St.

Francis of the Hills Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order will meet today 3-5 p.m. at Immaculate Conception Church, 208 7th Ave. West. Visitors and inquirers are welcome. For more information, call Helen Gillogly, SFO, at (828) 883-9645.

**28 NEWTON** — The Little Flowers Catholic Girls' Group is for all Catholic girls ages five and up. The group will be meeting at St. Joseph Church, 720 West 13th St., at 4 p.m. in the Holy Family Hall. For more details, call Debbie Vickers at (828) 495-2039.

**29 GREENSBORO** — "Theology on Tap" sessions will be held at Anton's on Battleground at 7 p.m. For more information, e-mail greensborotot@yahoo.com.

Please submit notices of parish events for the Diocesan Planner at least 15 days prior to the event date in writing to Karen A. Evans at kaevans@charlottediocese.org or fax to (704) 370-3382.



# Shrouded in controversy

*Skeptics doubt validity of Shroud of Turin's origins; Catholic Church calls it 'a witness to Christ'*

By KAREN A. EVANS  
STAFF WRITER

BELMONT — For centuries, a 17-foot long piece of linen cloth widely known as the Shroud of Turin has remained wrapped in mystery. Some believe it to be the burial cloth of Jesus Christ; others claim it is an elaborate hoax created in the Middle Ages to lure pilgrims to Lirey, France.

The cloth, venerated by Christians for centuries, bears the faint imprint of a man and the apparent signs of wound marks that correspond to a crucifixion. According to sindone.org, the official Web site of the Shroud of Turin, science has not been able to determine how the image was formed.

In a presentation on the Shroud of Turin at Queen of the Apostles Church June 22, Kevin Moran suggested the image of Jesus was transferred to the cloth during the resurrection, when Jesus' body came through the burial shroud.

Moran, a parishioner of Queen of the Apostles Church, is a member of three Shroud of Turin study groups: Shroud of Turin Research Project (STURP), the Association of Scholars and Scientists International for the Shroud of Turin and the Holy Shroud Guild. Moran has worked with Shroud of Turin researchers since 1979.

## 20 centuries of the shroud

The early whereabouts of the Shroud of Turin are unsubstantiated, but according to Moran, the shroud is believed to have been kept in a church in Constantinople until the time of the Fourth Crusade (1200-1204), when it was stolen by Christian crusaders. Its exact location was unknown until

the 14th century, when it was placed in St. Mary of Lirey Church by a French knight.

In his book "The Blood and the Shroud," Ian Wilson wrote that in 1578, the shroud was brought to Italy's Turin Cathedral, thus giving it its name. It remained under the ownership of the House of Savoy until 1983, when it was willed to Pope John Paul II and his successors.

The Shroud of Turin continues to be kept in Turin Cathedral in a specially designed, fire-resistant case. The shroud has survived three fires, in 1532, 1972 and 1997. It is under the custodianship of Cardinal Severino Poletto of Turin.

## Science of the shroud

For the past 25 years, scientists have attempted to unravel the origins of the Shroud of Turin.

In 1978, a group of 30 scientists from STURP gathered in Turin to conduct a thorough scientific analysis of the shroud. For 120 hours, they took fiber and blood samples, photographs and x-rays.

The STURP team's preliminary findings were that the image showed no evidence of having been created by an artist and the blood image was likely present before the body image.

However, Dr. Walter McCrone of the McCrone Research Institute contradicted their conclusions, stating that the image on the shroud is a painting produced just before its first appearance in recorded history in 1356. Dr. McCrone used polarized light microscopy to inspect linen fibers from 32 different areas.

In 1988, scientists who conducted carbon-14 testing on the shroud said there was a 95 percent certainty that the cloth was made between 1260 and 1390, and therefore could not have been the burial cloth of Jesus.

Several experts have since questioned the reliability of those tests, pointing to the possibility of chemical or biological contamination. Meanwhile, Catholic church officials have not ruled out future dating attempts.



CNS PHOTO FROM REUTERS

Pope John Paul II prays at the Shroud of Turin in the Turin Cathedral during the public display in 1998. The shroud, thought by many to be Christ's burial cloth, was most recently on public display for the Great Jubilee of the Year 2000.

## A matter of faith

In May 1988, then-Cardinal-designate Poletto said evidence that had emerged cast doubts on the accuracy of the tests.

"For me, that was enough to say that the question is still open," he said at a Vatican press conference. "On our part, we do not say the shroud is a relic, nor that it is authentic: that would be irresponsible and dishonest because we do not have proof."

However, the cardinal said, "the shroud remains a gift of God to bring humanity face to face with Christ."

In 2001, Cardinal Poletto said, "The shroud ... is a sign which must help our faith make that journey which leads us to 'see Christ.'"

"We do not have to dwell on scientific data, but pass from scientific research to faith," the cardinal said. "Through the shroud we are asked to contemplate the Son: Seeing the wounds of the sword and the nails, how can we not think about the passion and death of Jesus?"

Pope John Paul II has called the linen a "singular witness of Christ."

"The shroud is a challenge to our intelligence. It first of all requires of

every person, particularly the researcher, that he humbly grasp the profound message it sends to his reason and his life," Pope John Paul II said in a 1998 address.

"The mysterious fascination of the shroud forces questions to be raised about the sacred linen and the historical life of Jesus.

"Since it is not a matter of faith, the church has no specific competence to pronounce on these questions," said the pope. "She entrusts to scientists the task of continuing to investigate, so that satisfactory answers may be found to the questions connected with this sheet, which, according to tradition, wrapped the body of our Redeemer after he had been taken down from the cross.

"The church urges that the shroud be studied without pre-established positions that take for granted results that are not such; she invites them to act with interior freedom and attentive respect for both scientific methodology and the sensibilities of believers," said Pope John Paul II.

*Catholic News Service contributed to this story.*

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Charlotte, NC 28203  
Phone: 704-370-3274

[favillaronga@charlottediocese.org](mailto:favillaronga@charlottediocese.org)



## Diocesan Resource Team on Small Christian Community named

CHARLOTTE — The diocesan Office of Faith Formation recently appointed eight individuals to serve one-year terms with the diocesan Resource Team on Small Christian Community (SCC).

The team consists of Eduardo Bernal from Cherokee; Bob Foley from Norwood; Linda Gibbons and Cam Tracy from Gastonia; Michael Kauffman from Murphy; Boots and Bob Kiggins from Mars Hill; and Pat White from Charlotte. Dr. Cris Villapondo, diocesan director faith formation, is ex-officio member.

One of the team's objectives is to inform parish group leaders and other interested parties about SCC and to establish a diocesan network of SCC parish leaders for mutual support. Another goal is to provide program and leadership resource material to individuals interested in forming SCC in their parishes.

SCC is a growing concept in the Catholic Church worldwide, according to Foley, team coordinator. "SCC is an empowering way for the faithful to live their Christian mission in what they already do."

SCC traces its origins to the first community where Jesus engaged believers through his spiritual presence, called disciples to servant leadership and sent forth the faithful to actively live his message in daily life, said Foley.

"No single definition prevails for the term. However, consensus does exist about its meaning," he said.

That consensus, he said, indicates SCC as a group of individuals who meet at least monthly; engage in prayer, read and discuss Scripture; operate within the Catholic culture (typically aligning with a parish or an order); and express a sense of being on a mission, which can range from addressing broad justice and peace issues

to ministering to a group member's needs.

"SCC can be a parish group where people are gathered together in friendship to offer each other prayerful support in their shared Catholicism, and are sent forth empowered by Christian mission to effectively meet challenges in their daily lives," said Foley.

Many existing parish groups are SCC, but they do not name themselves as such, said Foley, either because they do not choose to do so or because they are not aware of the concept.

A study by the Lily Foundation uncovered approximately 37,000 SCCs in the United States. The Diocese of Charlotte contains nearly 200 SCCs — 140 general SCCs, 24 Charismatic SCCs and 35 Hispanic SCCs.

In July, the Office of Faith Formation will contact pastors, faith formation leaders, youth and young adult ministers and Hispanic ministry coordinators to create a database on SCCs.

"In an effort to enhance their ministry to all adults, we are soliciting information of SCC they may have," said Villapondo.

If existing parish groups fit the above description, or if parishes are interested in forming such a group, they are encouraged to contact the diocesan Office of Faith Formation or Foley for more information.

### QUESTIONS?

For more information about the Resource Team or Small Christian Community, contact the Diocesan Office of Faith Formation in Charlotte at (704) 370-3244; or Resource Team Coordinator Bob Foley at bfoley@cvnc.net; or any Resource Team member.

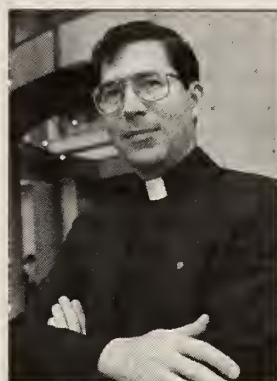
## Priests for Life brings fight to Charlotte

By KAREN A. EVANS

STAFF WRITER

CHARLOTTE — Father Frank Pavone, the national director for Priests for Life, will be in Charlotte July 12-20 as part of The National Rescue Event sponsored by Operation Save America.

"This national gathering uses the same types of non-violent techniques common to the civil rights movement," said Father Pavone.



Father Frank Pavone

Operating within the structure of the Catholic Church, Priests for Life offers assistance to the clergy in addressing the topics of abortion and euthanasia, and training and resources to the entire pro-life movement.

According to Father Pavone, there are a number of actions every Catholic and every parish can do to end abortion. In particular, Catholics should pray for an end to abortion.

He also suggested parishes support crisis pregnancy organizations and local shelters that help pregnant women in need, and hold fundraisers to help churches assist women facing crisis pregnancies.

The association rejects violence as a solution to the abortion problem.

"Priests for Life denounces the incidents of violence that have occurred

against abortion providers," Father Pavone stated in 1998.

"All violence must be opposed, whatever one's beliefs about social issues."

Although abortion is the primary focus of Priests for Life, the organization also holds to the Consistent Ethic of Life, which addresses war, hunger, human rights, euthanasia and capital punishment.

"The events in Charlotte will provide a great deal of inspiration for all those who come," said Father Pavone. "There is an ecumenical dimension — in the process of joining hand in hand to fight the evil of abortion, we get to know each other better across denominational lines."

Father Pavone also hopes to advance the dialogue between the pro-life and pro-abortion sides during his time in Charlotte.

"Lives will be saved," he said. "Minds will be changed."

*Catholic News Service contributed to this story.*

Contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans by calling (704) 370-3354 or e-mail [kaevans@charlottediocese.org](mailto:kaevans@charlottediocese.org).

### WANT TO GO?

Father Pavone will be participating in the following activities at Charlotte-area Catholic Churches:

Sunday, July 13 11 a.m. Mass homilist at St. Patrick Cathedral

Sunday, July 13 12:30 p.m. Mass homilist at St. Patrick Cathedral

Tuesday, July 15 3 p.m. Mass at St. Vincent de Paul Church

Wednesday, July 16 7 p.m. Presentation at Our Lady of the Assumption Church

Sunday, July 20 8:30 a.m. Mass homilist at Our Lady of the Assumption Church

Sunday, July 20 11 a.m. Mass homilist at Our Lady of the Assumption Church

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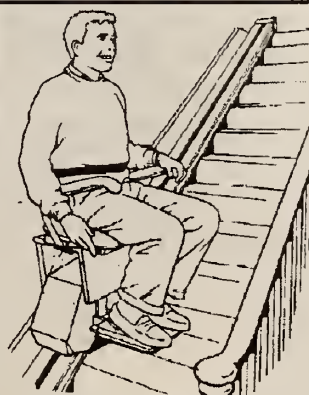
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## Retreat to fire up faithful enthusiasm

LAKE JUNALUSKA — "Creating Enthusiasm for the Faith" is the theme of the upcoming 2003 Fire in the Mountains retreat in November. The annual one-day retreat seeks to connect people to each other and to God through faith sharing focused on issues critical to their immediate community and the modern world.

A program of the diocesan Office of Faith Formation and sponsored by the Asheville and Smoky Mountain vicariates, it is a gathering for those seeking ways to grow spiritually and share their faith with fellow Christians.

Speakers will discuss what it means to be a disciple in the 21st century and how to bring about a sense of the sacramentality of all creation. Like last year, presentations will be in both English and Spanish.

Featured speaker will be Father Francis Cancro, pastor of St. Eugene Church in Asheville, whose presentations will be in English. Vincentian Father Vincent Finnerty, pastor of Our Lady of Guadalupe Church in Charlotte, will speak in Spanish.

Msgr. Mauricio W. West, diocesan administrator, will present his reflections on the retreat's theme.

### WANT TO GO?

Fire in the Mountains will be held in Harrell Hall at Lake Junaluska (near Waynesville) Nov. 8. Registration begins at 8 a.m. and the event concludes at 3:30 p.m.

Costs (including lunch and refreshments): \$20 per person if registered before Oct. 25; \$25 per person afterward.

For registration forms, scholarship and additional information, contact Mary Ann Wharton at (828) 667-4227, e-mail fitm@dnet.net or go online at [www.fireitm.org](http://www.fireitm.org). Registration deadline is Oct. 26.

## Reeling in the stewards

### Church video highlights volunteer opportunities

HIGH POINT — Immaculate Heart of Mary Church is using a modern medium to take its message to the people.

The parish produced a six-minute videotape titled "Where Do You Fit In?" about the importance of stewardship, the Christian understanding that all creation belongs to God and people are its stewards, not its owners.

Stewardship is often invoked as a framework for offering one's time, talents and money to God through church support and action for others. It is applied also to issues such as care for the environment and responsible use, conservation and sharing of resources.

Immaculate Heart of Mary's Stewardship Commission created the video project, a brainchild of Oblate Father John Kelly.

"It doesn't matter if you have unlimited free time or a master's degree or disposable income. It doesn't matter if you're a teenager, a parent or a senior citizen," said Keith Davis, Stewardship Commission chair. "What does matter is the willingness to give of yourself to a cause or event that interests you."

Stewardship has been a high priority of the Diocese of Charlotte since 1988. The U.S. bishops' 1992 pastoral letter, "Stewardship: A Disciple's Response," reinforced the diocese's commitment to work toward educating and assisting parishes and individuals in adopting this way of life.

"A Christian steward is one who receives God's gifts gratefully, cherishes and tends them in responsible and accountable manner, shares them in justice and love with others and returns them with increase to the Lord," states the pastoral letter.

"Each member of the Church shares in responsibility for its mission; each is called to practice Stewardship of the church. Christians are also called to look outward and to place themselves at the service of the entire human community, especially those

## New cross for columbarium



PHOTO BY JOANITA M. NELLENBACH

Augustinian Father Francis J. Doyle, pastor of St. Margaret Church in Maggie Valley, blesses the recently installed cross near the church's columbarium (in left foreground). With him are altar servers Mike Razdrh (holding book) and Jasay Ketchum (holding processional cross), Augustinian Brother William Harkin, and parishioners from the church. The cross is part of a bequest from the late Martha Knoesel, a seasonal parishioner, whose nephew, Sam Bryant, stands at left of the cross. The 1,800-pound granite cross rests on a 5,000-pound granite base; cross and base have a combined height of 12 feet. The ceremony was held after Mass on June 8.

who are most in need."

The making of the videotape became a cause for many parishioners last winter, while other commissions and ministries contributed information to the project. Davis' wife, Debby, wrote the script and arranged video shoots; parishioners "acted" in the video; Steve Howell, Brian Wear and Dave Hildago shot the footage, with Howell editing the final product.

The videotape was recently shown after weekend Masses and will be shown at different ministries in the future, said Davis.

"Everyone will soon know much more about stewardship at Immaculate Heart of

Mary and get a chance to see where they can fit into the greater picture," said Davis.

### WANT MORE INFO?

The diocesan Office of Development offers services on promoting stewardship. For more information, contact Barbara Gaddy at (704) 370-3302.

For more information about Immaculate Heart of Mary's stewardship videotape, contact Debby Davis at (336) 431-6113.

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## FIGHTING FOR LIFE

# Planning families the natural way

*Concord doctors prescribe natural family planning methods*

By KEVIN E. MURRAY  
EDITOR

*Editor's Note: The following story contains information on conception and contraception methods.*

CONCORD — The Catholic Church sees sexuality as a gift from God that touches all aspects of the individuals involved — spiritual, moral, physical and psychological, according to Pope John Paul II.

The pope said in 1994 the use of natural methods of family planning help couples keep all four aspects in mind as they decide together whether to take advantage of the fertile or infertile periods.

With Natural Family Planning Awareness Week July 20-26 this year, the pope's beliefs still hold true, according to doctors Daniel Holland and Matthew Harrison, physicians at Holland Family Practice in Concord.

"We're committed to a natural family planning-only practice because of the inseparable link between contraception and abortion, and the rise of sexually transmitted diseases, divorce and other health problems," said Harrison.

Holland, a parishioner of St. James Church in Concord, started the unique

practice that does not prescribe contraceptive pills or devices to patients. The physicians won't perform or refer for sterilization procedures.

With crucifixes in the exam rooms, the doctors relate to patients the benefits of natural family planning in accordance with church teaching on birth control.

"Consistency — that's what Matt and I are striving for," said Holland. "That's living out our faith."

## Conception and misconceptions

Developed in 1968 by Dr. Thomas Hilgers, natural family planning (also called NFP) is based on an awareness of a woman's fertility as a natural way to postpone or achieve pregnancy.

The method involves interpreting certain signs of a woman's body that indicate fertile and infertile times. When followed correctly, natural family planning is up to 99 percent successful in spacing or limiting births, according to U.S. bishops' Secretariat for Pro-Life Activities.

Natural family planning is not the rhythm or calendar method, in which time of ovulation is estimated by calculating previous menstrual cycles. Although the Secretariat for Pro-Life Activities states the rhythm approach has

sound scientific underpinnings, in practice it often proved inaccurate because of the unique nature of each woman's menstrual cycle. Natural family planning, by contrast, has been proven scientifically sound in both theory and practice.

Harrison and his wife are certified instructors in the Sympto-Thermal Method, which combines observations of temperature and cervical mucus with other indicators. Holland teaches the Creighton Model, a newer NFP system that enables him to teach patients about menstrual irregularities, fertility issues and perimenopausal problems.

"The applications of natural family planning are endless," said Holland. "To the Catholic community, options to live your faith and options for these kinds of medical issues are now available."

Natural family planning benefits include zero health risks, increased health awareness and low costs, as the method involves no continuing costs once learned.

Holland and Harrison believe many women don't understand how contraceptives work, or the consequences of using them.

"Contraceptives had promised stronger marriages, population control



PHOTO BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

Dr. Daniel Holland, a Concord physician and St. James Church parishioner, only prescribes natural family planning methods to his patients in accordance with church teaching.

and decline in abortion," said Harrison. "Instead, since the widespread use beginning in the 1950s and 1960s, divorce rates skyrocketed, abortion rates exploded, sexually transmitted diseases have become more widespread and extra-marital and pre-marital affairs have become more commonplace."

Holland and Harrison said

See NFP, page 16



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# U.S. bishops tackle church problems at meeting

BISHOPS, from page 1

The first afternoon they held a closed meeting with researchers and lay leaders appointed to oversee their ongoing efforts to combat clergy sexual abuse of minors. The researchers answered questions about the aims and methodology of the current study they are conducting in all U.S. dioceses to determine the nature and scope of such abuse over the past half-century.

The bishops spent the whole day behind closed doors June 20 in structured discussions to reflect on what they regard as three of the highest-priority issues in the U.S. church: the identity and spirituality of bishops and priests, the decline in sacramental practice and lack of adequate faith formation among U.S. Catholics, and challenges facing Catholic laity in today's culture.

The day of reflection was the first major step in an 18-month process initiated last November to determine whether the bishops should convene the first plenary council of the U.S. church since 1884 and, if they do, what themes and issues it should address.

Cardinal Francis E. George of Chicago, who led the session on Catholic laity, told a small group of reporters afterward that before deciding on whether to convene a plenary council the bishops said they needed more information on the nature and history of church councils and on possible alternative ways, such as a national synod, to deal with the problems they want to address.

At noontime and afternoon press conferences June 19, Bishop Wilton D. Gregory of Belleville, Ill., president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, stressed that the bishops have done a great deal over the past 18 months to address the clergy sexual abuse crisis and that they are still engaged in that process.

"It is a serious moment in the life of the church," he said, "and I think only the most naive would have anticipated that it would have been solved in the



CNS PHOTO FROM REUTERS

**Chicago Cardinal Francis E. George responds to a question during a press conference at the U.S. bishops' annual spring meeting June 19 in St. Louis. With him were Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein of Indianapolis, center, and Auxiliary Bishop Joseph M. Sullivan of Brooklyn, N.Y.**

twinkling of an eye. It took time ... and it will take more time to complete the process of healing and the restoration of confidence and trust."

In a report to the bishops June 21 Archbishop Harry J. Flynn of St. Paul-Minneapolis, chairman of the USCCB Ad Hoc Committee on Sexual Abuse, said the bishops' work to combat clergy sexual abuse of minors since last June has been going "at full throttle."

"There is still a long road ahead of us," he said, but "our commitment has not wavered. We have made a pledge to our people and to the people of this nation and especially the vulnerable ones, and we will keep that pledge."

On June 19, more than 30 members and supporters of the Survivors Network of those Abused by Priests, including two mothers of abuse victims who had committed suicide, held an hourlong silent prayer vigil in Aloe Plaza, across the street from the Hyatt Regency Hotel

where the meeting was taking place. The vigil was prompted by the apparent attempted suicide in Boston of Patrick McSorley, a sexual abuse victim of defrocked Boston priest John Geoghan.

In an address to the bishops at their public opening session, Archbishop Gabriel Montalvo, papal nuncio to the United States, urged the bishops to respond with faith, hope and charity to the "real problems" confronting the U.S. church.

While recognizing that the problems are real, he also warned that they "have been magnified to discredit the moral authority of the church."

At the start of the opening session the bishops took a first look at two major action items facing them during the meeting.

They heard an opening presentation on a 357-page "National Directory for Catechesis." It is intended to replace the 1979 directory, "Sharing the Light of

Faith," taking into account many intervening developments, including the issuance of a new general directory on catechesis by the Holy See.

They also heard an opening presentation on a 217-page "National Directory for the Formation, Ministry and Life of Permanent Deacons in the United States." Originally approved in 2000, the directives did not receive the required Vatican confirmation and have been revised to take into account more than 200 Vatican observations on the earlier text.

They voted on both directories June 21, but a number of bishops had left the meeting early, so not enough votes were cast for a conclusive decision. Both directories require approval by two-thirds of all active USCCB members plus subsequent confirmation by the Holy See before they can take effect. As a standard procedure when the vote during a meeting is inconclusive, bishops who did not cast a vote then will be polled by mail to complete the balloting.

Since no objections to either directory were raised from the floor of the meeting, the passage of both documents seemed virtually certain.

In a quick series of votes June 19 the bishops decided to undertake the development of four new documents within the next few years. These were:

— A pastoral letter on the theology of mission, intended to promote mission awareness as an integral part of religious education in U.S. Catholic schools and parishes.

— A statement applying Catholic social teaching to agricultural issues in the face of emerging challenges of biotechnology, global trade and the increasing concentration of agriculture in the hands of large corporations.

— A statement offering practical ways of improving collaboration between women and clergy in the church.

— A "foundational document" on the formation and preparation of ecclesial lay ministers, setting out the goals and criteria for the personal, intel-

BISHOPS, continued next page

## In-brief roundup of U.S. bishops' June 19-21 meeting

### Bishops give go-ahead for new statutes for liturgy commission

ST. LOUIS (CNS) — At the request of Cardinal Francis E. George of Chicago, the U.S. bishops June 19 gave him the go-ahead to vote in favor of submitting to the Holy See the revised statutes of the International Commission on English in the Liturgy.

Cardinal George noted that discussion of the new ICEL statutes has been under way for "the last several years," with the goal of creating more effective cooperation between ICEL and the bishops' conferences and between ICEL and the Holy See. He also noted that "Liturgiam Authenticam" ("The Authentic Liturgy"), a May 2001 document issued by the Vatican Congregation for Divine Worship and the Sacraments, set out new rules

for such international commissions and required that the commissions have their statutes approved by the Holy See.

### Bishops urged to pay more attention to Native American Catholics

ST. LOUIS (CNS) — Bishop Donald E. Pelotte of Gallup, N.M., urged the U.S. bishops June 19 to get to know who the Native American Catholics are in their dioceses and "learn the gifts they have to offer and the needs they have."

Speaking at the opening session of the bishops' June 19-21 meeting in St. Louis, Bishop Pelotte said more than half the 4.1 million people who identified themselves as Native Americans in the 2000 census lived in cities and towns. Nearly half "live in dioceses

that have no office or pastoral program specifically designed to meet Native American needs," he said.

Bishop Pelotte, one of two Native American bishops in the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, is chairman of the bishops' Ad Hoc Committee on Native American Catholics. He made his presentation to mark the publication of "Native American Catholics at the Millennium." The study, published by USCCB Publishing, assesses the current state of Native American Catholics, their pastoral needs and the state of church ministry to them.

### U.S. bishops devote a day to reflection on major church issues

ST. LOUIS (CNS) — Sparked by a desire to get at deeper problems beneath the clergy sexual abuse crisis, the

U.S. bishops devoted a full day June 20 to reflective discussion of critical issues confronting the U.S. church today.

Cardinal Francis E. George of Chicago warned that God and religion are seen as threats to individual freedom in contemporary U.S. culture, making it difficult for Catholics to live or transmit their faith. Bishop Donald W. Wuerl of Pittsburgh told the bishops that "fewer and fewer people participate in the sacramental life of the church," and that problem is "intimately related" to a greatly diminished knowledge and experience of the faith, especially among younger Catholics.

Archbishop Justin F. Rigali of St. Louis said the spirituality of priests and bishops is the key to their identity, but starting out with who a priest or bishop is and how one lives "is not readily accepted by a world that exalts action over being and embraces pragmatism, functionalism and utilitarianism."



BISHOPS, from previous page

lectual, spiritual and pastoral formation of lay people who seek to engage in lay ministries in the name of the church.

They elected Bishop Thomas J. Tobin of Youngstown, Ohio, as chairman of the USCCB Committee on Pastoral Practices until November 2004. The post was left vacant this February with the death of Bishop James R. Hoffman of Toledo, Ohio, who was elected to a three-year term in November 2001.

Auxiliary Bishop Joseph M. Sullivan of Brooklyn, N.Y. gave the bishops a brief progress report on the New Covenant initiative promoting greater collaboration among Catholic parishes, schools, health care institutions and social service agencies to make Catholic healing and caring ministries more effective. He announced that the eight-year-old movement has issued a new study on such collaboration, available on compact disc. He also stressed the role of the local bishop, as coordinator of ministries, in leading the way for such collaboration.

In a report June 19 on the structure of the day of reflection the following day, Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein of Indianapolis said that out of 11 major concerns in the U.S. church discussed by the bishops last November a follow-up survey of the bishops surfaced four as their highest priority.

These, he said, were the identity and spirituality of priests and bishops, the need for catechesis of the faith, the role of the laity and the decline of participation in the church's sacramental life. **-245 WORDS**

He said the day of reflection would be divided into three main segments of presentation and discussion, with the themes of catechesis and sacramental life combined in one segment.

Bishop Donald W. Wuerl of Pittsburgh led off the discussion of sacramental practice and catechesis. Cardinal George took up the discussion of the role of the laity in today's culture. Archbishop Justin F. Rigali of St. Louis introduced the segment on priestly and episcopal identity and spirituality.

Although reporters were excluded from the June 20 sessions, the texts of Bishop Wuerl's and Archbishop Rigali's talks were released to the media. Cardinal George, who spoke from notes, summarized what he said for a small group of reporters afterward.

Bishop Wuerl and Cardinal George highlighted challenges to Catholic belief and practice posed by a secularized, individualistic culture in the United States. Archbishop Rigali said the identity of a priest or bishop is intimately bound up in his spirituality, which must be based on the example of Christ, the Good Shepherd.

At a midday press conference June 20, Archbishop Michael J. Sheehan of Santa Fe, N.M., spoke about issues and concerns he faces as the new apostolic administrator of the Phoenix Diocese.

He was named to the post June 18 when the Vatican accepted the resignation of Bishop Thomas J. O'Brien after he was formally charged with a felony June 17 for leaving the scene of a traffic accident in which a 43-year-old man was killed three days earlier.

## Bishops given progress report on sexual abuse response

By JERRY FILTEAU  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

ST. LOUIS — In the past year the U.S. bishops have made a "monumental effort" to address all aspects of the crisis caused by clergy sexual abuse of minors, Archbishop Harry J. Flynn of St. Paul-Minneapolis said June 21.

Archbishop Flynn, chairman of the bishops' Ad Hoc Committee on Sexual Abuse, delivered a report on the issue on the final day of the bishops' June 19-21 national meeting in St. Louis.

The meeting also featured a half-day closed session June 19 at which the bishops discussed the goals and methodology of a national survey being conducted in all dioceses by the John Jay College of Criminal Justice in New York to determine the extent of clergy sexual abuse of children in the U.S. church since 1950. They also spent a day reflecting on some of the major issues in the U.S. church that they see as underlying the sexual abuse crisis.

Archbishop Flynn said the bishops

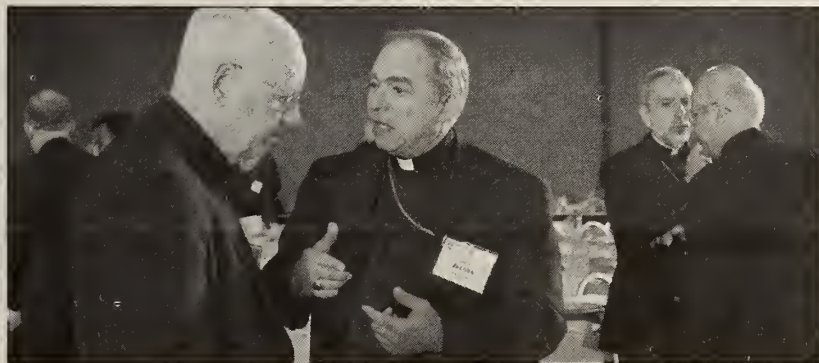
dioceses in implementing the charter and helping the review board oversee that process and conduct the research mandated by the bishops.

Archbishop Flynn challenged the common media perception that Vatican-initiated changes in the legal norms adopted by the bishops weakened them.

"Contrary to the views sometimes expressed in the press, the changes made to the norms strengthened our ability, not weakened it, to act effectively and expeditiously when addressing these cases," he said. "In particular, Norm 9 made very clear the place of the bishop's executive power of governance."

That norm says that for the common good a bishop is to use his power of governance "to ensure that any priest who has committed even one act of sexual abuse of a minor ... shall not continue in active ministry."

Archbishop Flynn noted that more than 200 U.S. canon lawyers have participated in special training sessions run by the Vatican Congregation for the Doctrine



CNS PHOTO BY MARK KEMPF

U.S. bishops talk during a break in proceedings at their annual spring meeting in St. Louis June 19. Second from left is Bishop Sam G. Jacobs of Alexandria, La.

were facing "perhaps the worst crisis in the history of the church in our country" at their watershed meeting last June in Dallas, where they adopted a child protection charter and began the process of establishing legally binding norms for the removal of all abusive priests.

"Since that historic meeting last year, a monumental effort has been made to fulfill the promises of that charter, to implement measures that would remove offending clergy, to reach out to those so terribly injured by sexual abuse and to restore the trust and confidence of our people and our priests," he said.

"We do not take too much comfort in that," he added. "There is still a long road ahead of us."

The archbishop said the bishops have been working "at full throttle" over the past year "on the many specific building blocks that round out" the framework set by the charter and legal norms.

He noted that soon after the Dallas meeting the bishops expanded the membership of the sexual abuse committee and formed an all-lay National Review Board to oversee every diocese's compliance with the charter.

He said the board conducted a national search culminating in the appointment of former FBI official Kathleen McChesney to head the Office for Child and Youth Protection, which is assisting

of the Faith, which has special jurisdiction over sexual crimes committed by clergy, to enable them to handle trials of priests accused of molesting minors.

He also noted that his committee has sponsored "a series of regional training workshops for bishops" to prepare them to cooperate in the compliance audits that the Office for Child and Youth Protection will be conducting in every diocese.

The workshops also focused on "pastoral outreach to victims and their families," he said.

He urged bishops to engage personally in that outreach. "We are convinced that this outreach is best done at the local level. It is most effective when it can be done personally by the bishop," he said.

"It must be said that these efforts are not always successful," he added. "Sometimes because of our shortcomings, but also at times due to the climate of litigation, outreach can be seriously inhibited. Nevertheless in our workshops we have urged the bishops that they should not allow litigation to get in the way of pastoral care."

Archbishop Flynn noted that priests in religious orders, who make up about one-third of all U.S. priests, are also covered by the norms. He said the bishops' conference and the Conference of Major Superiors of Men have formed a working group to discuss the necessary cooperation between bishops and religious superiors in

dealing with the case of any ordained religious who has sexually abused a minor.

He said the committee has formed another working group "to explore more fully the meaning of the term 'a life of prayer and penance' used in the charter to discuss requirements to be imposed on abusive priests who, because of age or illness, may be exempted from laicization.

One of the areas the committee is working on, he said, is the question of ongoing monitoring of priests who are removed from ministry but not laicized.

At a press conference following the meeting Archbishop Flynn stressed that, in most substantiated cases of abuse of a minor, if the abuser is healthy and still of a working age he should undergo voluntary or forced laicization.

But he noted that the charter also makes provision for exceptions in the case of advanced age or infirmity. In those cases, he said, it is the responsibility of the bishop or the superior of the religious community to which the priest belongs to assure that the priest is monitored.

In response to a question about the seminary visitations called for in the charter, Bishop Wilton D. Gregory of Belleville, Ill., president of the bishops' conference, said that the visitations will be conducted under Vatican auspices. The Vatican has contacted the bishops' conference about the process "and we've responded and are working out the details," he said. "We are moving forward" on the plan.

## Bishops declare Catholic Korean-American Day

By CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

ST. LOUIS — The U.S. Catholic bishops have proclaimed Sept. 21 as Catholic Korean-American Day.

At the bishops' annual spring meeting in St. Louis June 19, Auxiliary Bishop Thomas G. Wenski of Miami introduced a resolution recognizing the Korean-American contributions to the church in the United States.

Bishop Wenski, chairman of the bishops' Committee on Migration, said this year marks the 100th anniversary of Korean immigration into the United States, the 40th anniversary of the first major Korean influx, and the 20th anniversary of the founding of a national pastoral center for Korean-American Catholics.

He said Catholic Korean-American Day would be celebrated across the country Sept. 21, with special observances in Washington at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception.

The bishops approved the resolution unanimously by voice vote.

Bishop Wenski praised the "strong religious sense" of Korean-American Catholics and thanked the bishops of Korea for their generosity in loaning large numbers of priests to serve the Korean Catholic community in the United States.

Cardinal Theodore E. McCarrick of Washington said the large number of vocations to priesthood and religious life from the Korean-American community is also noteworthy.



## Book Review

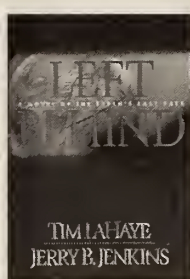
# 'Left Behind' books contradict church teachings, Illinois bishops say

By ELAINE SPENCER  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

PEORIA, Ill. — The popular "Left Behind" books, movies and related materials advance beliefs in direct conflict with Catholic teaching and should not be promoted in any way by Catholic institutions, the bishops of Illinois said.

The Catholic Conference of Illinois, the public policy arm of the state's six bishops, released a statement June 12 concerning the best-selling fictional series by Tim LaHaye and Jerry B. Jenkins that describes the sudden "rapture" of Christians from the earth and the rise of the Antichrist.

"These materials are, in fact, a marketing tool for fundamentalist preaching about the end times and a thinly dis-



guised polemic against the Catholic Church," said the statement, approved by Cardinal Francis E. George of Chicago and Bishops Daniel R. Jenky of Peoria, Thomas G. Doran of Rockford, George J. Lucas of Springfield, Joseph L. Imesch of Joliet and Wilton D. Gregory of Belleville.

The statement urges Catholic schools, parishes, bookstores and other institutions to remove "Left Behind" books from their libraries or bookshelves, refrain from selling them at Catholic events, and provide "a more faithful reading list" in harmony with Catholic teaching on the end times.

It also urges Catholic educators to provide "planned, coherent, and informed catechesis" on Catholic end-times teaching to all age groups.

The conference statement said the series — now in the 10th installment of the adult series and the 24th book of the children's version — popularizes a common fundamentalist belief in a time of tribulation after the rapture, when believers are secretly taken up to heaven, and before the second coming of Christ.

"This belief is not supported in Scripture," the statement said. The series is also "anti-Catholic in content and form," particularly in its portrayal of a pope establishing a new world religion in league with the Antichrist, the statement added.

The series' publisher, Tyndale House Press of Wheaton, Ill., and Cloud Ten Productions, producers of the movies based on the series, "have made clear in their marketing that they feel divinely inspired to promote their theological agenda among the most vulnerable," the statement said.

The series opens with the sudden disappearance of millions of Christians, including the reigning pope, from the earth, followed by the rise of a dictator who is eventually revealed to be the Antichrist.

Some of those left behind after the

rapture become Christians and form a "tribulation force" to fight the Antichrist. Meanwhile, an American cardinal who becomes pope after the rapture joins forces with the Antichrist to promote a new world religion.

The bishops' statement said readers who lack understanding of Catholic teaching about the end times might accept the "Left Behind" scenario "because it sounds familiar and 'biblical.'"

In response to reading the books, the statement said, Catholic catechists "have been observed confusing and even frightening children in religious education programs by teaching the 'rapture' as if it were an article of Catholic faith."

"We call upon those responsible for faith formation to provide planned, coherent, and informed catechesis to all age groups about church teachings on the end of the world, based on Scripture and tradition," the bishops added.

Zachary Wichmann, the conference's associate director for education, said June 16 that the statement was the result of several months of collaboration among the state's diocesan directors of religious education.

The directors meet periodically to discuss various issues, and at one recent meeting "we were discussing this series and how popular it had become," Wichmann told The Catholic Post, Peoria diocesan newspaper.

"They had heard of people inappropriately teaching" the rapture and other aspects of the series in catechetical settings, he added. "When Catholics start talking about the rapture as if it were true, that raises a lot of concern."

Wichmann said the primary purpose of the conference statement was to inform persons in positions of teaching responsibility that the "Left Behind" series should not be used as a teaching tool or as a means of evangelism.

"It's a work of fiction, and if it's viewed that way, it's fine" for Catholics to choose to read it on their own, he added. "We wanted to make clear that what is in these books is not part of the Catholic faith and not part of Scripture."



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## Word to Life

Sunday Scripture Readings  
July 13, 2003

July 13, Fifteenth Sunday  
in Ordinary Time

Cycle B Readings:

- 1) Amos 7:12-15  
Psalm 85:9-14
- 2) Ephesians 1:3-14
- 3) Gospel: Mark 6:7-13

By DAN LUBY  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

Alone, neither would have walked. It was a perfect day for sleeping in. Both had worked late and were slow to wake up. On a morning as blustery and wet as this, after as short a night as this had been, as heavy as their eyelids felt — what harm could it do to go back to sleep?

But neither wanted to disappoint the other. Each felt a little guilty letting the other one walk alone on such a dismal morning. Neither wanted to accept responsibility for the other one's having an excuse to avoid the exercise they both needed.

When they rounded the first turn in their usual route, gusts of wind almost tore the umbrella from his hand. She wondered if they ought to give it up and go home, but he said they should try a few more minutes. The wind fell. They kept walking.

His arm grew tired of holding the

outsized umbrella, and he would have gladly cut the walk short, but she held it for a while until he worked the cramps from his hand. They kept going until they were done.

It helps to have a partner, especially when the task we face is challenging. Perhaps that's why, in Sunday's Gospel story, Jesus sends his friends out for their first formal mission in pairs.

Partners help each other through hard times. They encourage each other in the face of disappointment. They provide accountability and motivation when the impulse to give up or cut corners tempts us.

That's one reason we need the community of disciples we call the church — to give us partners — in the work of prayer and service and reconciliation and truth.

Let us be grateful for the partners we have and commit ourselves to be more faithful partners ourselves.

### Questions:

With what person in my life can I enter into a partnership for prayer or service? What is one specific way I can say "thanks" to someone who partners with me in the journey of discipleship?

### Scripture to Illustrate:

"Jesus summoned the Twelve and began to send them out two by two" (Matthew 6:7a).

## Weekly Scripture

### Scripture for the week of July 13 - July 19

Sunday (Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time), Amos 7:12-15, Ephesians 1:3-14, Mark 6:7-13; Monday (Bl. Kateri Tekakwitha), Exodus 1:8-14, 22, Matthew 10:34-11:1; Tuesday (St. Bonaventure), Exodus 2:1-15, Matthew 11:20-24; Wednesday (Our Lady of Mount Carmel), Exodus 3:1-6, 9-12, Matthew 11:25-27; Thursday, Exodus 3:13-20, Matthew 11:28-30; Friday (St. Camillus de Lellis), Exodus 11:10-12:14, Matthew 12:1-8; Saturday, Exodus 12:37-42, Matthew 12:14-21

### Scripture for the week of July 20 - July 26

Sunday (Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time), Jeremiah 23:1-6, Ephesians 2:13-18, Mark 6:30-34; Monday (St. Lawrence of Brindisi), Exodus 14:5-18, Matthew 12:38-42; Tuesday (St. Mary Magdalene), Exodus 14:21-15:1, John 20:1-2, 11-18; Wednesday (St. Bridget of Sweden), Exodus 16:1-5, 9-15, Matthew 13:1-9; Thursday, Exodus 19:1-2, 9-11, 16-20, Matthew 13:10-17; Friday (St. James), 2 Corinthians 4:7-15, Matthew 20:20-28; Saturday (Sts. Joachim and Anne), Exodus 24:3-8, Matthew 13:24-30

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## 'Pirates' an entertaining swashbuckler



CNS PHOTO FROM WALT DISNEY

Johnny Depp stars in the Walt Disney feature "Pirates of the Caribbean: The Curse of the Black Pearl." Based on Disney's theme-park ride, Gore Verbinski's film is an action-packed high seas romp, despite cartoonish characters, tedious duels and a self-parodying, at-times silly story. Recurring action/adventure violence, some frightening supernatural effects and mildly lewd humor. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-II — adults and adolescents. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13 — parents are strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.

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## 'Sinbad' is so-so adventure for tykes

By DAVID DiCERTO  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

NEW YORK — Fabled Arabian swashbuckler Sinbad crosses swords with a mischievous goddess in order to retrieve a powerful magic book in the animated adventure "Sinbad: Legend of the Seven Seas" (DreamWorks).

Despite a star-powered cast lending their pipes and polished animation, the lukewarm story lacks both the character and narrative development required to qualify it as one of the seven animated wonders of the ancient world.

The tale centers on Sinbad (voiced by Brad Pitt), dashing daredevil of the "Arabian Nights," who trades in his flying carpet for the helm of the Chimera and its motley crew of fun-loving pirates, itching for some time off from pillaging and plundering.

The loot that will punch their tickets to fun in the sun is a priceless leather-bound volume called the "Book of Peace," guarded by the gallant Proteus (voiced by Joseph Fiennes), Sinbad's former childhood chum.

After barely escaping a watery grave, Sinbad is offered a deal by Eris (voiced by Michelle Pfeiffer), the goddess of chaos, who also has designs for the mystical manuscript — if he steals the book for her, she'll guarantee him that he and his mates will retire in style.

Sinbad is soon introduced to Proteus' beautiful betrothed, Marina (voiced by Catherine Zeta-Jones), who makes Sinbad want to amend his thieving ways. But Eris steals the book herself in the guise of Sinbad, framing him for the crime. Sinbad is sentenced to death, but Proteus valiantly offers to take his place

at the chopping block, unless Sinbad can return in 10 days with the book.

Sinbad sets a course for the netherworld abode of Eris, battling treacherous seas and fantastical creatures, proving that underneath his knavish facade is an honorable heart.

Drawing inspiration from both classical Greco-Roman and Arabian folklore, the filmmakers have created an eclectic world, at once both realistic and mythic. The enchanting artwork is at its best when dealing with the film's more fantastic elements.

Pfeiffer steals the show as the deliciously devious deity. Pitt's Sin-"Brad" is rather bland and takes a back seat to his more colorful crew. Zeta-Jones' raspy voice is always a pleasure to listen to, even without any tunes for her to belt out — in fact, there aren't any songs at all.

Several of the scenes, including a near-shipwreck, may be distressing to the under-6 set. And while much of the plot hinges on a complex emotional triangle involving Sinbad, Proteus and Marina, the film promotes a tyke-friendly theme about the value of friendship, as well as imparting a strong message about honesty and selfless courage.

Due to some scary scenes, as well as complex emotional relationships, the USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-II — adults and adolescents. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG — parental guidance suggested.

*DiCerto is on the staff of the Office for Film & Broadcasting of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.*

TOO BUSY FOR ONE LAST KISS? DO YOU EVER FORGET TO KISS YOUR LOVED ONES AS YOU SAY YOUR DAILY "GOOD-BYES"? HOW DEVASTATED WOULD YOU BE IF YOU MISSED YOUR LAST CHANCE TO KISS THAT PERSON WHO MIGHT BE GONE FOREVER?

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—Rev. James Sheehan, author of *The Father Who Didn't Know My Name*

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## The Pope Speaks

POPE JOHN PAUL II

### Pope says true faith expressed by prayers that God's will be done

BY CINDY WOODEN  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — True faith in God is expressed in prayers for his assistance, accompanied by prayers that his will be done, Pope John Paul II said.

"We must understand that our greatest good is the union of our will with the will of our heavenly Father, because only in that way can we receive all of his love which brings us salvation and the fullness of life," the pope said July 9 at his weekly general audience.

The audience, attended by about 7,000 visitors, was the last of the 2003 summer audiences scheduled for the Vatican. Pope John Paul was to transfer July 10 to his summer villa at Castel Gandolfo and hold his general audiences there until September.

At the July 9 audience, the pope had difficulty speaking clearly and cut large sections from his prepared talk about Psalm 143 (142), recited during morning prayer.

The psalm, the prayer of "a penitent in distress," is used by the church as a recognition of personal fragility and a plea for divine assistance at the beginning of the day, he said.

The psalmist's account of what is happening to him is like a "nightmare," the pope said, because he feels the enemy of evil and darkness closing around him.

The only thing he can do is to stretch his hands out in prayer to God, remembering the wonders God has accomplished in the past, the pope said.

"This spark of hope replaces the chill caused by the suffering and trial in which the psalmist finds himself," he said.

After expressing his continuing trust in the Lord, the psalmist prays to know God's will, "which is the will of love," he said.

"This is the power of prayer, the generator of life and salvation," Pope John Paul said. "If it is not accompanied by a strong desire for docility before the Lord, faith in him is not authentic."

"For those who place their trust in the Lord's faithful and saving love, prayer brings hope, joy and light and leads to eternal life," he said.

### Science and pregnancy: The continual new issues

At just 19 weeks of pregnancy, my husband and I viewed with breathtaking clarity the four chambers of the fetal heart. Only a few months after conception, baby No. 2 shows off his or her 10 toes, 10 fingers, elaborate spine and complex brain on the monitor in front of us, which the sonogram technician studies with haunting concentration.

The small fetus is already his or her own person; the miracle that began at conception develops and grows, moving and kicking within my womb every day.

I already consider myself a mother of two: one weighing approximately 30 pounds, kicking and thrashing on the kitchen floor when I attempt to limit his sugar intake; the other approximately a pound, fluttering inside, just as active as his or her older brother.

Should this little person have rights? After witnessing a 19-week sonogram and feeling tiny feet hit my uterine wall, it is impossible for me to say no.

Partial-birth abortion is banned in 40 states after Week 23. That means 10 states allow a mother to terminate life after a fetus has begun to kick and in some cases is able to survive outside the womb. Twenty-eight states now prosecute a person for harming a fetus.

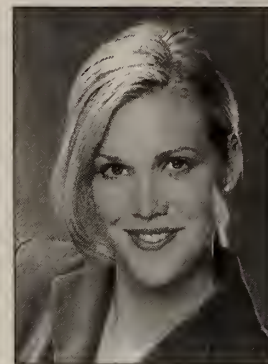
The topic of fetal rights has garnered much attention lately, with remnants of the Laci Peterson case on the nightly news and Congress ready to pass the Unborn Victims of Violence Act and to send to the president a bill to ban partial-birth abortions.

Both abortion and fetal rights are personal matters for me these days. The subject has moved from a hot-button issue to be debated with my pro-choice friends over dinner to an issue that accompanies me to the doctor's office.

Having run a mental marathon during my last pregnancy when I agreed to take tests that screened for Down syndrome and other birth defects, I knew better this time. If the only purpose for the tests was to give me

## Our Turn

THERESE J. BORCHARD  
CNS COLUMNIST



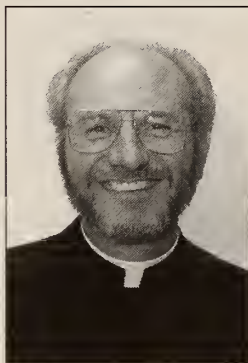
the option to terminate a pregnancy that wasn't perfect, I would pass.

But then the nurse sprang another one on me: Would I consider preserving the stem cells in my baby's umbilical cord in order to assist research on various cancers, genetic diseases, blood disorders and immune deficiencies? This stem-cell option differs from the controversial embryonic stem-cell research, which requires destroying human embryos. However, the whole issue makes me uncomfortable because it blurs the line between God-given life and medical advances.

Protecting the life of the unborn isn't always such a black-and-white issue anymore. Science and technology are making it increasingly difficult for young adults — especially young moms — to separate right from wrong, ethical from unethical, savvy from irresponsible.

With each new scientific or technical advance, the nation is thrust again into a heated debate. I can no longer keep up with the arguments from each side on every new issue. I'm confused. I need to rely on the moral voice of the church for clarity. It has done its homework over the last 2,000 years.

I want to protect my children in any way I can. And so I let my faith guide me, in the maze of options, toward life.



## Faith & the Marketplace

GLENMARY FATHER  
JOHN S. RAUSCH  
GUEST COLUMNIST

### Boardwalk and the Water Works?

If you own the Water Works in Monopoly and somebody lands on your property, that player must pay four times the throw of the dice. If, however, you own both the Electric Company and Water Works, giving you the utilities monopoly, the rent jumps to 10 times. Monopoly, a Depression-era game, still demonstrates fundamental lessons about money and power for a global economy where behemoth corporations own and control the resources.

Lexington, Ky., like a few other cities, is debating the ownership of its water system. Owned by the Kentucky-American Water Company, the Lexington utility was purchased in January 2003 by a giant German transnational conglomerate, RWE AG. That corporation, after buying Thames Water in England, ranks third internationally in the \$400-billion-a-year global water industry. The revenue from supplying water is already one-third larger than global pharmaceuticals and 40 percent the size of the oil sector. Fortune magazine (May 2000) trumpets, "Water promises to be to the 21st century what oil was to the 20th century." With only five percent of the world's water systems privately owned, the growth potential remains enormous.

The corporate world claims community-owned water systems have higher costs and provide less service. Citing efficiency and scale, corporations boast about their abilities to deliver water while earning a profit. Community groups,

however, informed by numerous examples, caution about continual rate hikes and a diminished workforce that results in spotty service with corporate ownership.

The privatization of water reflects another aspect of the global economy, a system that believes market forces can solve most problems better than government. Recognizing the world's fresh water crisis, market forces defined water as a "human need" rather than a "human right." A "human right" cannot be sold, whereas a "human need" can be satisfied with commodities for sale or trade.

The flurry of free trade agreements, both regional ones and those proposed for investments and services, introduce a new concept in international law. Previously, treaties allowed only nations to sue other nations, but new agreements like the North American Free Trade Agreement (under its Chapter 11) allow investors to sue governments when government actions result in what the foreign investor perceives as a loss. Under NAFTA, Sunbelt Water Inc. of California sued British Columbia when the provincial government canceled all permits to export water after the province grew concerned about its water supply. Sunbelt sued, not for direct harm, but for the loss of potential future profits it hoped to earn selling water to southern California. The power of corporations in the global economy can now override a country's environmental, health and safety laws, when those laws restrict free trade.

While John Paul II recognizes the essential strengths of the market system, he also warns about "a new limit on the market: There are collective and qualitative needs which cannot be satisfied by market mechanisms."

Other Vatican offices directly address these essential elements of life. "Water by its very nature cannot be treated as a mere commodity among other commodities," writes the Pontifical Justice and Peace Council. "Without water life is threatened, with the result being death. The right to water is thus an inalienable right."

While governments can partner with private firms, only local ownership and tight supervision can ensure each person's access to clean drinking water. Appropriate government oversight must preserve the common good for all.





## Light One Candle

MSGR. JIM LISANTE  
GUEST COLUMNIST

### On flags and faith

The events of the past few months have caused all of us to take a fresh look at our country: what it stands for, what its role should be, what it means to us. Differ as we might on policies and actions, I hope we never lose sight of the ideals that led to the nation's founding in the first place. Against the backdrop of a now-changed world, the Fourth of July holiday provides a chance to do just that.

The flag can be a great help in that regard; as an enduring symbol of national honor and pride it has no equal. Recently I came across a story about the intensity of the devotion that our flag can inspire, and this week seems like an especially appropriate time to pass it along to those who might not have heard it.

It's a story told by John McCain, the Republican Senator from Arizona. I'm aware, of course, that opinions about the senator might differ, but there's not much room for debate over his record for heroism as a Naval aviator. Both his father and grandfather were Navy admirals, and one of his ancestors was a commander in the American Revolution. With good reason he called his 1999 autobiography "Faith of My Fathers," and in it he told an awe-inspiring story — one that he introduced with these words: "Let me tell you what I think about our Pledge of Allegiance, our flag

and our country."

Most Americans know that McCain was shot down over Vietnam and then was captured, tortured and imprisoned for five-and-a-half years, much of that time in solitary confinement. When conditions eased a bit in 1971 and prisoners were able to share quarters, McCain was joined by several others, including Mike Christian, a Naval flight officer held captive since 1967.

Eventually prisoners were allowed to receive packages from home, and one that was mailed to Christian included articles of clothing in various colors. Using some of those materials, and working with an improvised bamboo needle, Christian painstakingly sewed together a small American flag that he attached to the inside of his shirt.

From then on, that shirt and the flag it contained became a symbol of home and country for the captured Americans. Each day, at noon, Christian would hang the shirt on the wall and he and his fellow prisoners would look toward it and recite the Pledge of Allegiance. McCain wrote: "I can assure you that — for those men in that stark prison cell — it was indeed the most important and meaningful part of our day."

One day, to the Americans' horror, the Vietnamese searched the cell and found the shirt. They took it away and punished Christian with a beating so severe it left him bruised and bleeding. That night, after he and the others had patched Christian up as best they could, McCain looked over to Christian's corner of the room and saw him with a few pieces of cloth, another shirt and another bamboo needle: "Sitting there, with his eyes almost shut from his beating, making another American flag."

That's a story worth keeping in mind when someone asks if the flag has any special meaning for you.

Happy Fourth of July.

*For a free copy of the Christopher News Note, "Good Neighbor, Good Citizen," write: The Christophers, 12 East 48th Street, New York, N.Y. 10017; or e-mail: mail@christophers.org.*

### Why pray?

*Q. In a recent Bible study class we were discussing why we pray, since God already has a plan for everyone and everything. He knows what will happen, and we're not going to change his mind.*

*Our conclusion was that prayer should be only to praise God, not to pray for things. Do you agree? (Oklahoma)*

A. Not entirely. First of all, it isn't so much a matter of changing God's mind, but rather of recognizing that his care for us includes his awareness of our prayers, our desires and our longings.

We're dealing here with two great mysteries. One is God's knowledge of all things, along with his unconditional and infinite love, his faithful, unfailing tenderness in our regard. The other is the mystery of free will, which means there is some way we work together with God in shaping our individual lives and destinies.

Our personal relationship with God includes sharing with him our joys and sorrows, our hopes and disappointments, our wonders and regrets, all of which is nothing else than prayer.

This is why Jesus urges us to pray perseveringly and why he himself prayed so frequently. He went so far as to encourage us to push God, harass God if you will, about our petitions (see Luke 18). What our heavenly Father plans and what he does apparently depends, at least to some significant degree, on what we show is important to us in our prayers.

Many elements essential to our relationship with God are involved in prayer, not least of which is a genuine desire for the things God wants to give us, desires which must be in our hearts if we are to be able to receive his gifts.

This is not to say that we ought always to receive what we want, when we want, if only we pray hard enough. But prayer, and a prayerful attitude before God, affects us so deeply that we are not the same persons we would be if we did not

## Question Corner



FATHER JOHN DIETZEN  
CNS COLUMNIST

pray — and that means prayer of petition and thanksgiving as well as praise.

Because of his love, God always wants what is best for us. But did it ever occur to you that what is best may be different if we are praying desperately for something than if we are not?

We are all different in our relationships with God and the world. Our humility before God, our trust in him, our conviction that something will be good for us and those we love, all this goes into determining what is really best for us in God's eyes here and now.

Thus, if we pray, what is best for us will be different, too, in God's view as well as our own.

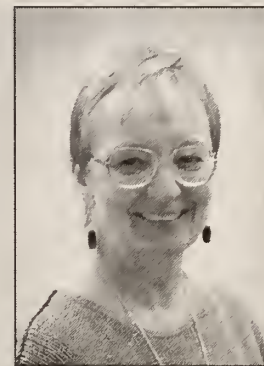
We don't know how it all works. But the Gospels and long Christian tradition tell us we're missing something essential if prayer of all kinds is not a sustaining part of our lives.

*A free brochure answering questions Catholics ask about receiving the holy Eucharist is available by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope to Father John Dietzen, Box 325, Peoria, IL 61651.*

*Questions may be sent to Father Dietzen at the same address, or e-mail: jjdietzen@aol.com.*

## Working Matters

JOANITA M.  
NELLENBACH  
GUEST COLUMNIST



### Welcoming the workers

The farmworkers' Mass in Bethel (see story, page 1) was a profound — and humbling — experience for me.

I take for granted that I will attend Mass in a beautiful church with padded kneelers and a priest who speaks English. But here were 60 Hispanics kneeling in dirt and grass during the consecration. For whatever reason, they couldn't get to, or weren't comfortable about attending, Mass in town.

Protestants go into the community to assist Hispanics. Then they invite them to their churches. That's a dilemma that Norma Brown, a parishioner at Immaculate Conception Church in Canton and a school system employee, knows all too well.

Regulations regarding separation of church and state don't allow Brown to volunteer the information that she's Catholic.

"They're leery about asking if the person helping them is Catholic, because they're used to being offered help by Protestants," Brown said. "I see them struggling to ask if I'm Catholic. If they ask me, I can tell them, and when they find out later or because they ask me I can see their relief."

If a non-Catholic helps, then "invites them to go to their services or celebrations, as Hispanics we feel obligated to go. If somebody helps you, you have to be kind and show respect."

Coming from close-knit communities at home, it's understandable that Hispanics (or any ethnic group) would worship where they feel welcome.

"They go to other churches but don't get baptized into those churches," said Eduardo Bernal, Hispanic ministry coordinator for the Smoky Mountain Vicariate. "They remain Catholic, but without the sacraments."

When they learn about a Catholic service where they are welcome, they start attending there.

The U.S. Catholic bishops "call upon ... Catholics especially, to welcome, the newcomers in their neighborhoods and schools, in their places of work and worship, with heartfelt hospitality, openness, and eagerness both to help and learn from our brothers and sisters, of whatever race, religion, ethnicity, or background" ("Welcoming the Stranger Among Us: Unity in Diversity," NCCB/USCC, 2000, [www.nccbuscc.org/mrs/unity.htm](http://www.nccbuscc.org/mrs/unity.htm)).

How do we do that?

Tiffin Franciscan Sister Andrea Inkrott, director of Hispanic ministry for the Diocese of Charlotte, offers some tips: "Be aware. Become educated. Look around for other cultures. Don't turn away from people who are different. Smile. [Hispanic] ministry is not about doing something for Hispanics. It's doing something with them as brother and sister Catholics, getting to know them."

Al Ragona, a parishioner at St. Margaret Church in Maggie Valley, would agree.

For several years he was on a parish team in Florida that visited migrant camps, learned from the workers what they needed, and became friends with many of them. Ragona found he could communicate, even though he didn't speak Spanish.

"Everybody should do outreach," Bernal said. "It's the most important thing in the whole world. Most people are friendly. If I think about Christ-centered, Christ was in the houses, in the towns, all over the place."



# Field Mass for farm workers

HISPANIC, from page 1

reconciliation, and she and Father Barr sought privacy behind the "confessional car."

Worship in a field was nothing new for Father Barr, who had celebrated Mass in a banana grove in the Dominican Republic. "It's really a case of the church coming to the people because the people can't come to the church," he said.

After Mass, two farm workers asked Norma Brown, an Immaculate Conception parishioner, if she would help them prepare for their first Communion. Brown, who emigrated from Argentina three years ago, is bilingual, but neither man spoke English. They would never have asked for her help if she hadn't come to Mass in that field, Brown said, because they don't attend Mass in town.

Immaculate Conception is usually packed when there's a Hispanic Mass. When there's no Spanish-speaking priest available, Eduardo Bernal, Hispanic ministry coordinator for the Smoky Mountain Vicariate, conducts a Communion service.

However, like those two men, many don't attend either Mass or service.

"They feel intimidated, because when they go to Immaculate Conception they're afraid they won't find anyone who speaks Spanish," Brown said. "Catholics out here are used to being a minority, but for Hispanics this is a new feeling — being a minority because they are Catholic and Hispanic."

Others don't have transportation; most of the vehicles on hand belonged to the farm owner or to Immaculate Conception's Hispanic parishioners who



PHOTOS BY JOANITA M. NELLENBACH

**Above:** Father Boyd blesses a young boy. Father Boyd wears a stole, hand painted in a corn motif, given to him by a priest with whom he worked during his sabbatical in Mexico.

**Left:** People join hands for the Lord's Prayer during a Hispanic Mass held in a field in Bethel, near Canton, June 22.

opted for Mass in the field to show solidarity with those who don't go into Canton.

Brown, a practicing attorney in Argentina, is now an English-as-a-second-language tutor, an interpreter and a migrant recruiter — she helps get Hispanic children enrolled into schools in Haywood County. She also spread the news Mass would be celebrated in the field.

At a folding table covered with a lace-trimmed altar cloth, with vessels and chairs borrowed from Immaculate

Conception, Fathers Boyd and Barr concelebrated the Mass for the feast of the Body and Blood of Christ. Both preached homilies. Some of the worshippers wore the same clothes in which they labored in the fields. Others were more dressed up, including two young girls in pink dresses, white socks and shiny black Mary Janes.

People continued to arrive during the service; eventually about 60 people were sitting on the brown metal chairs or on their own camp chairs, or standing. Toddlers gurgled in their parents' arms

or played in the dirt. Adults knelt in the dirt during the consecration.

At the end of Mass, Father Boyd brought out a monstrance and inserted the Host-filled lunette. Singing in Spanish, everyone joined the Corpus Christ procession to the end of the dirt lane and back.

"I think this is the way we should be as church," Brown said of the Mass. "We should go where people are to show them that we love them. Somehow we have failed in that."

Contact Correspondent Joanita M. Nellenbach by calling (828) 627-9209 or e-

## Classifieds

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**MUSIC DIRECTOR:** St. Raphael Catholic Church, a 4000-family multicultural (1/3 Hispanic) parish seeks a full time Director of Music to expand the music program. The Director will

conduct the Chorale and have overall coordination of multiple programs to develop the musical worship of the parish. The parish has a Chorale, Children's Choir, Handbell Choir, Hispanic Choir, and Contemporary Choir. St. Raphael, located in Raleigh, North Carolina, has a newly expanded facility with new offices, a dedicated rehearsal room, and music storage space. The sanctuary contains a grand piano and organ. The successful candidate will be proficient in piano, organ, and voice, be knowledgeable of Roman Catholic liturgy, have choral directing experience, and cantor training skills. Salary commensurate with experience. Practicing Catholic preferred. Please send application to: Music Search Committee, St. Raphael Catholic Church, 5801 Falls of Neuse Rd, Raleigh, NC 27609.

**MUSIC MINISTER:** Holy Redeemer Parish, located on the Outer Banks of Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, is seeking a full-time Minister of Music. The position includes playing for all scheduled Masses, weddings and funerals and directing the choirs. The parish recently installed a Marshall Brothers pipe organ built in 1870, containing 1,316 pipes and 23 ranks. The organ was completely rebuilt in 1995 and installed in Holy Redeemer in 2001. Knowledge of Spanish and Spanish liturgical music is helpful. Please send resumes to the Music Ministry Search Committee, P. O. Box 510, Kitty Hawk, NC 27949.

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**YOUTH MINISTER:** Saint Pius X Catholic Church, Greensboro, NC. Vibrant parish of 1000 families seeks leader to work with middle school, high school, and young adults on a full time basis. Must be willing to work as a team member with pastoral staff, offer a comprehensive youth ministry approach, and incorporate parish and public school students into groups and activities. Degree in pastoral ministry or related field preferred. Experience a plus, but not necessary. Job includes benefits. Salary dependent on experience and degree. For consideration, send resume and references to: Saint Pius X Catholic Church, Youth

Minister Search Committee, 2210 North Elm Street, Greensboro, NC, 27408. Phone: (336) 272-4681 e-mail: piusxfaith@aol.com

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# He lived in the presence of God

*Father Jim helped others find God by 'shoveling a path to the Catholic Church'*

A remembrance by

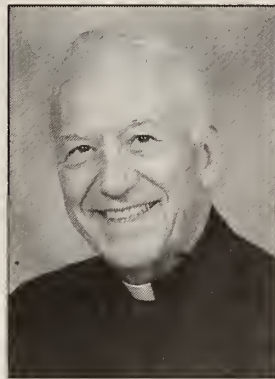
**GLENMARY FATHER JOHN RAUSCH**  
SPECIAL TO  
THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

ROBBINSVILLE — In the fifth grade, Father Jim Wilmes dreamed about becoming a missionary priest. He began his vocational journey when he entered the preparatory seminary for the Archdiocese of Chicago as a high-school freshman. Two years before ordination, he asked Chicago's archbishop for permission to join Glenmary, but the archbishop told him to discern God's will further. Father Jim knocked on that same door for the next five years till he received permission and Glenmary got a priest three years ordained.

Spirited and full of energy, Father Jim embraced his first Glenmary assign-

ment in the late 1950s in the mountains of Western North Carolina. He did outreach to surrounding small towns. Turning to Robbinsville, the county seat of Graham County, he realized the town had three Catholics but no church. There, he rented a small storefront and began a parish. Today, Prince of Peace Church serves 35 parishioners in winter and 80 in summer.

His mission outreach fluctuated between mass communication and personal appeals. At one time, he wrote a weekly Catholic information column, called "Christian Seeds," for three county newspapers while doing weekly programs for two local radio stations. And for 19 years, he joined Arlene Francis for a Thanksgiving broadcast on WOR in New York. But, always looking for a convert, he also spent hours "porch- preaching," just sitting and rocking with folks, never shy



Father Jim Wilmes

about asking them to join the Catholic Church.

His talent for preaching encouraged numerous invitations for funerals, Catholic or not. His sermon, "Life Is Like a Persian Rug," delighted people with an everyday image: "On the underside — that is, from our viewpoint of life — all we see are knots, tangles and threads going in different directions with no order .... But on the topside of a Persian rug, from God's viewpoint, we see amazing designs and beautiful patterns." The point: the deceased, by entering eternal life, sees life's patches of bright colors as God does from the topside.

His preaching prompted one fellow to

pay him the ultimate compliment: "Father Jim, you speak just like a Baptist preacher!"

Behind that preaching, Father Jim developed a deep spirituality and rich devotional life. The clock in his bedroom chimed every quarter hour reminding him during his waking hours to say a short prayer like "Heart of Jesus, I place my trust in you." He lived in the presence of God. His devotion to the Blessed Mother led him in his later life to conduct numerous pilgrimages to Medjugorje, Fatima, Lourdes and other Marian shrines.

Father Jim celebrated his golden jubilee of priesthood last summer. Besides North Carolina, he served Glenmary missions in southern Georgia and eastern Oklahoma. He also worked with Glenmary's vocation and promotion team.

For the last 17 years, he lived in the Robbinsville area. He chose in his last five years to occupy a small room in the back of the Robbinsville church. There he lived a simple life. He survived with no stove, just a microwave. At night he slept on a couch. His shower was located next door in the parish hall.

In early February 2003, a deep mountain snowfall covered the area. Father Jim suffered a heart attack removing snow from the church grounds. He died symbolically doing the work of a missionary: helping others find God by shoveling a path to the Catholic church.

This article first appeared in Glenmary Challenge, the magazine of the Glenmary Home Missioners, and is reprinted with permission. For more about Glenmary or Father Jim Wilmes, visit [www.glenmary.org](http://www.glenmary.org).

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## Andrews resident honored with Mother Teresa award

ANDREWS — The North Carolina State Council of the Knights of Columbus announced Joseph El-Khoury as the recipient of the 2003 Mother Teresa Memorial Award.



COURTESY PHOTO

Father Michael Kottar, administrator of Holy Redeemer Church in Andrews, presents parishioner Joseph El-Khoury with the N.C. Knights of Columbus 2003 Mother Teresa Memorial Award during Mass June 15.

The Knights of Columbus approved the development of the award at a 1998 state meeting as a way to remember the life of Mother Teresa. Now in its fifth year, the award is given annually to a parishioner in each North Carolina diocese that serves the church, community, families and God with love and humility — someone who best exemplifies Mother Teresa's motto: "Do small things with great love."

El-Khoury, a parishioner of Holy Redeemer Church, was selected after the Knights asked pastors in the diocese to submit nominations for the award. Father Michael Kottar, administrator of Holy Redeemer, presented El-Khoury with the award at Mass June 15. Additionally, the Knights of Columbus presented a \$500.00 check to a local ministry on the behalf of El-Khoury.

El-Khoury, a Maronite Rite Catholic, was born in Kour, Batroun, Lebanon in 1924. He arrived with his family in Andrews in 1955 when there was no Catholic church and 90 percent of the people are Baptist, according to Father Kottar, who wrote a letter of nomination for El-Khoury.

Yet, "Joe was able to persevere in his faith in spite of such difficulties," said Father Kottar. "Since there was no church, he made his home an ecclesiola — a little church. ...When a parish was eventually established in Murphy (a distance of 20 miles), he faithfully drove his family to Mass every Sunday."

El-Khoury later provided the land for Holy Redeemer Church, forgoing his original dream to build a home on the property.

"I believe Joe has received many graces from God because of that act of generosity," said Father Kottar. "Because

of it, the holy sacrifice of the Mass has been continuously celebrated in Andrews for over 40 years."

El-Khoury opened his home to the Glenmary priests, brothers and nuns that came through the area over the years. Father Kottar said El-Khoury also changed perceptions of the Catholic faith through his involvement in the community and civic involvement, including March of Dimes, Boy Scouts, Red Cross and United Way. Both the Andrews Chamber of Commerce and the Andrews Lions Club awarded El-Khoury as their Man of the Year for his contributions.

"As part of his work with the Lions Club, Joe has spoken before almost all of the western N.C. Catholic churches and many Protestant churches," said Father Kottar. "Joe would always speak about his faith and how it affected his life. Speaking before the non-Catholics, Joe many times became an apologist for the faith. He would use part of his talk to answer questions about our Catholic faith and dispel any misconceptions."

"My civic work helped my church work a lot," said El-Khoury when asked why he did so much. "I preach all the time that civic involvement is a fulfillment of my faith — to be involved in the community where I live, to make it a better place and to serve to those less fortunate than we are."

## Natural family planning helps couples live the faith

NFP, from page 7

virtually all hormonal methods of birth control work by three methods: preventing ovulation; inhibiting sperm mobility; and preventing implantation of a new life after conception has occurred.

"Other methods such as the IUD work mainly by preventing implantation, causing an early miscarriage or abortion," said Harrison. The unborn baby, roughly eight days old after conception, "just goes out with the period. Women don't know that."

"What we're finding is that a lot of Protestant couples who are very pro-life are using natural family planning because it doesn't work through abortive means like so many contraceptives do, which ... are causing miscarriages."

### Spiritual benefits

"Contraception separates the actual end of sexual intercourse from the act of sexual intercourse," said Harrison. "It warps the marital sacrament."

"Natural family planning is something that helps marriages, helps couples, and brings them closer to God," said Holland. "What we've found is that NFP couples seem happier, their marriage seems stronger."

Couples who practice natural family planning communicate more, said Harrison. "The divorce rate for couples who use NFP is less than five percent. In the general population, it's 50 percent," he noted.

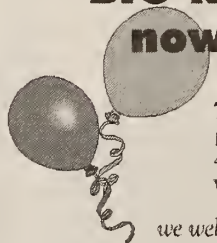
The Secretariat for Pro-Life Activities reports natural family planning: contributes to marriage enrichment and mutual understanding, and the appreciation for the value of children; fosters respect for and acceptance of the total person; and encourages moral acceptability. Couples who use it learn they have a shared responsibility for family planning.

The Couple to Couple League for Natural Family Planning Web site states periodic abstinence, such as with natural family planning, helps keeps relationships fresh, improves communication and gives couples a deeper respect for each other.

"When you use contraception and there's a pregnancy, it's a problem. But when you use NFP, you're open to the possibility of life always," said Harrison. "So if you are blessed with a child, you accept that blessing and say, 'God will provide for whatever we need,' even if you're having financial problems. You're still living within the parameters of God's will."

Contact Editor Kevin E. Murray by calling (704) 370-3334 or e-mail [kemurray@charlottediocese.org](mailto:kemurray@charlottediocese.org).

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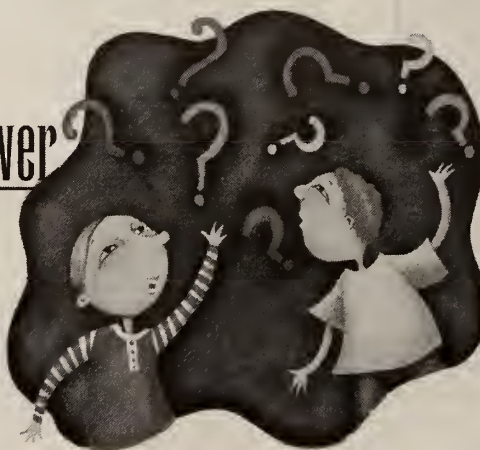
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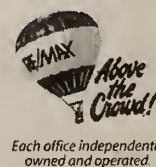
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"I do convert. I convert you to be a better Hindu, a better Catholic, a better Muslim or Jain or Buddhist. I would like to help you find God. When you find Him, it is up to you to do what you want with Him."

Mother Teresa

# The Catholic

## NEWS & HERALD

### Reflections of Africa

ORB-funded projects benefit Beninese women

...PAGE 7

JULY 25, 2003

SERVING CATHOLICS IN WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA IN THE DIOCESE OF CHARLOTTE

VOLUME 12 No 39

## These kids have HEART

*Haywood youth serve needy in Tennessee*

By JOANITA M. NELLENBACH  
CORRESPONDENT

WAYNESVILLE — Wearing red-and-white HYC HEART Camp T-shirts, members of Haywood Catholic Youth attended Mass together at St. John the Evangelist Church June 6.

The group had returned the day before from Catholic HEART Workcamp 2003, a week of working in poor neighborhoods in and near Nashville, Tenn. After Mass, some members spoke about their experiences.

"It overwhelmed your whole mind and body. You go out and you help these people, and you get done with your work, and these people come up to you and hug you and kiss you ..." said Carl Friberg.

Founded in Orlando, Fla., in 1993, Catholic HEART Workcamps are held



PHOTO BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

### Catholic HEART Workcamp 2003

While Haywood Catholic Youth spent June 29-July 5 in Nashville, Tenn., students from other states came to work in North Carolina. Above, Beth Underwood from Jasper, Ind., and Lisa Kunnen from Richmond, Va., share a moment with David, a resident of Holy Angels in Belmont.

See WORKCAMP, page 9

For full story, please see page 9.

## Cardinal urges more efforts to evangelize Hispanics

*Diocese of Charlotte working to 'Welcome the Stranger'*

By AGOSTINO BONO  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

Editor's Note: Editor Kevin E. Murray contributed to this story.

WASHINGTON — The church has to increase its efforts to evangelize Hispanics, especially those living illegally in the United States, said Cardinal Theodore E. McCarrick of Washington.

Hispanics are estimated to be about one-third of the Catholics in the United States, but "I think they are 50 percent because you have to count the undocumented," he said July 8 to 100 people involved in Hispanic ministry throughout the country.

Cardinal McCarrick was a speaker at the July 8-11 meeting of the National Catholic Association of Diocesan Directors for Hispanic Ministry in Washington. Franciscan Sister Andrea Inkrott, director of Hispanic Ministry in the Diocese of Charlotte, attended the meeting.

"It was an important speech. Our country is not just English speaking," said Sister Andrea. "We're very multicultural and becoming more so every day."

In the Diocese of Charlotte, there are approximately 140,000 Hispanic Catholics, according to the diocesan Office of Planning.

See HISPANIC, page 4

## Journey to the last American frontier

*Charlotte teens work and play in Alaska*

By KAREN A. EVANS  
STAFF WRITER

ANCHORAGE, Alaska — As the airplane touched down on the tarmac, 22 excited teenagers and five chaperones got their first glimpse of Anchorage, Alaska.

The parishioners from St. Therese Church in Mooresville

and St. Ann Church in Charlotte arrived in Alaska June 16 for two weeks of mission work in the Archdiocese of Anchorage.

Traveling by air, land and sea, the group logged nearly 10,000 miles roundtrip on their journey.

See ALASKA, page 8

Guided by 'Uncle Bishop'  
Brevard relative inspired by sainted uncle

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Letters to the Editor  
Letters, editorials and columns

...PAGES 12-13

Sister sisters  
Witty twin nuns love church, call to service

...PAGE 16



COURTESY PHOTO

Abi Rothe puts the final strokes on the fresh coat of paint on the cross on St. Joseph Church in Cordova, Alaska.

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### Vatican official says major religions must work as allies for peace

MORRISTOWN, N.J. (CNS) —

Cardinal Walter Kasper, president of the Vatican Commission for Religious Relations with the Jews, called July 19 for Jews, Muslims and Christians to work as allies to "build up a new human civilization of life." In a time when many people, especially in the West, have "lost their direction and ethical orientation," adherents of the three religions constitute "an enormous human, religious and ethical potential against the immense destructive potential in our world," he said. Cardinal Kasper joined a rabbi and an imam at a special assembly on "Children of Abraham: Journeys to God" at the College of St. Elizabeth, an institution run by the Sisters of Charity in Morristown. Identifying the Middle East as a place where the alliance was especially needed, Cardinal Kasper urged that Christians, Muslims and Jews work together to "end the vicious circle of violence and counter-violence which has caused the death of so many innocent people on both sides."

### Activists warn of budget cut consequences for the poor

PITTSBURGH (CNS) — Representatives of church, labor, community and health organizations warned of serious consequences from the proposed federal budget and planned tax cuts at a town meeting in Pittsburgh's Hill District. "Human dignity must be the fundamental criterion against which public policy is measured," Susan Rauscher, secretary for pastoral and social concerns for the Pittsburgh Diocese, told U.S. Rep. Mike Doyle, D-Pa., who hosted the July 1 hearing. "We urge you and your colleagues to assess the strength of our nation's budget policy by how much it enhances or undermines the lives and dignity of the most vulnerable members of our society," she added. Rauscher encouraged legislators to fully fund the \$1.3 billion increase in the Social Services Block Grant; support President Bush's initiative to set aside at least \$89 billion to expand health care coverage for the uninsured over the next 10 years;

## Sixty-one men ordained deacons for Santa Fe, N.M., archdiocese



CNS PHOTO BY CELINE BACA RADIGAN

Sixty-one deacons lie prostrate at a liturgy of ordination at the Albuquerque Convention Center in New Mexico July 12. The group, believed to be the largest class of diaconate candidates in the United States this year, was ordained by Archbishop Michael J. Sheehan of Santa Fe.

support simplifying and expanding the Earned Income Tax Credit for low-income families; and oppose planned cuts to child nutrition, food stamp and food assistance programs.

### Web site offers apologetics, games, music to young Catholics

WASHINGTON (CNS) — For generations, "fat" has been used by some to mean "good": "fat city," "fat of the land" and so forth. Somewhere along the way, "fat" changed into "phat," with essentially the same meaning. Now, younger Catholics can go to a Web site, [www.phatmass.com](http://www.phatmass.com), and have one foot in contemporary culture and the other foot planted firmly in their faith. The

Phatmass Web site actually started in late 1999, according to Dustin Sieber, the site's Web master. "The original goal of Phatmass was originally to defend the church against misconceptions," he said in a telephone interview from his home in Arlington, Texas. "Apologetics, short answers to common misconceptions," was the focus, he added. But over time, the site evolved to offer games and music to Phatmass visitors. "They can come in for another reason, then put in the apologetics while they're there," Sieber told CNS.

### While church prepares for one anniversary, the pope honors another

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Major

preparations are under way for celebrations marking the 25th anniversary of Pope John Paul II's election, but the pope himself is preparing to celebrate a different anniversary. Vatican spokesman Joaquin Navarro-Valls announced in late June that the pope would spend part of his 2003 summer vacation finishing a book on his "pastoral and human experience as a bishop." The book's publication is expected to coincide with the 45th anniversary of the pope's Sept. 28, 1958, ordination as a bishop. On Aug. 6, 1958, the 38-year-old Father Karol Wojtyla — the future pope — was summoned from a kayaking trip with friends to be told that he had been nominated an auxiliary bishop of Krakow. He gave his assent and the nomination was announced in Poland Aug. 8; the bishop-designate then returned to his friends on the Lyna River excursion and returned from the outing Aug. 20, as originally planned.

### German priest suspended for giving Communion to non-Catholics

COLOGNE, Germany (CNS) — A German priest was suspended for giving Communion to non-Catholics during a high-profile Mass in a Lutheran church. Father Gotthold Hasenhuettl, 69, of Trier in southwestern Germany celebrated the May 29 Mass during the ecumenical Kirchentag, or church assembly, held in Berlin. The Mass was dropped from the Kirchentag's official program after church officials voiced their strong objections. "For the sake of the credibility of the church, I cannot accept that a priest celebrates an open Eucharist which has been specifically prohibited by the pope in his recent encyclical," Bishop Reinhard Marx of Trier told a July 17 press conference announcing the suspension. Father Hasenhuettl said he was acting within the guidelines laid down by the pope in the April encyclical, "Ecclesia de Eucharistia," which reiterated church teaching that Christians of other denominations may receive the Eucharist only in very limited and special circumstances. The priest said the Kirchentag was an example of a special circumstance.

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## Diocesan planner

### Upcoming Parish Events

#### July

**31 CHARLOTTE** — Cardinal Anthony J. Bevilacqua, pro-life advocate and chairman of the U.S. bishops' Committee on Pro-Life Activities, will celebrate Mass at St. Peter Church, 507 South Tryon Street, at 8 a.m. today and at 8 a.m. on Friday, Aug. 1. Cardinal Bevilacqua, who recently retired as head of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, is in Charlotte for the annual conference of diocesan pro-life directors and state Catholic conference directors July 31-Aug. 2.

#### August

**1 CHARLOTTE** — St. Peter Church, 507 S. Tryon St., will offer Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on the first Friday of every month following the 12:10 p.m. Mass and Benediction at 1:30 p.m.  
**2 ASHEVILLE** — Glenmary Father

Rollie Hautz will speak at Basilica of St. Lawrence, 97 Haywood St., during Masses August 2-3. He has been invited by the Mission Office of the Diocese of Charlotte to share information about Glenmary Home Missioners and their ministry in Appalachia, the South and Southwest. For Mass times, please call the church office at (828) 252-6042.

**2 SYLVA** — St. Mary Church offers Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament the first Saturday of every month following the 9 a.m. Mass until 3 p.m. For information, call (828) 586-9496.

**3 CHARLOTTE** — The St. Maximilian Kolbe Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order will gather today at 2 p.m. at Our Lady of Consolation Church, 2301 Statesville Ave. Those interested in learning more about the SFO and the Franciscan way of life are invited to attend. For more information, call Skyler Harvey, SFO, at (704) 545-9133.

**3 SALISBURY** — Sacred Heart Church, 128 N. Fulton St., will be celebrating a charismatic and healing Mass today at 4

p.m. Prayer and worship with prayer teams will be available at 3 p.m., and a potluck dinner will follow the Mass. Father John Putnam, pastor, will be the celebrant. For further information, call Bill Owens at (704) 639-9837.

**4 CHARLOTTE** — The bereavement support group will meet tonight 6-7:30 p.m. and every first Monday in the Family Room at St. Gabriel Church, 3016 Providence Rd. This support group is for anyone who has experienced the loss of a loved one. For details, call Ruth Posey, CSS counselor, at (704) 370-3238.

**4 CHARLOTTE** — Christians in Career Transition is a ministry of St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy., devoted to helping people in career crises. The meetings take place on the first and third Mondays of every month 7-9 p.m. in the conference room. For more information, call Rev. Mr. Jim Hanrlík at (704) 576-0456.

**4 CHARLOTTE** — The cancer support group for survivors, family and friends will meet today and every first Tuesday at 7



### Pope donated \$6.6 million to charity in 2002, Vatican report says

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope John Paul II gave about \$6.6 million in disaster relief and development projects in 2002, according to the Vatican's coordinating agency for charitable donations. In an annual report released July 17, the Pontifical Council "Cor Unum" said the pope gave about \$2 million in 2002 disaster relief, almost double what he donated in the previous year. Of the 2002 relief charity, by far the largest amount — about \$1.3 million — was earmarked for victims of war and terrorism in 18 countries, including the United States. The report said most of that funding was collected by "Cor Unum" in conjunction with a day of prayer and fasting called by the pope in late 2001 for world peace. The pope also financed development projects in 48 countries totaling \$1.9 million. Most were programs for health, education and housing in poor countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

### New York conference accepts revised bill on emergency contraception

ALBANY, N.Y. (CNS) — The New York State Catholic Conference withdrew its objections to legislation mandating that hospital emergency rooms provide "emergency contraception" drugs to survivors of rape, after the language was amended to resolve church concerns. The bill, which was awaiting the signature of New York Gov. George Pataki as of July 16, calls for such drugs as long as they "are not contraindicated, the woman is not pregnant, and it is within a medically appropriate amount of time from the attack," according to a statement from the conference, which represents the bishops of the state's eight Catholic dioceses. Catholic hospitals "currently administer these drugs to rape survivors" under those conditions, the statement said. Richard E. Barnes, executive director of the Albany-based conference, said in the statement that Catholic hospitals "are second to none in providing

## Malnourished children live in squalor in Mexico City



CNS PHOTO BY SERGIO DORANTES

A mother and her malnourished children stand in their cardboard shack built along the concrete wall of a Mexico City overpass. The Mexican bishops' conference was to officially launch the National Solidarity Campaign Aug. 20. It is a program to set up community kitchens in poor neighborhoods, and is based on a model developed in Brazil.

compassionate, holistic care to survivors of rape. This legislation will not affect how that care is provided. Catholic hospitals in New York will continue to offer these medications to rape survivors, consistent with this law and with church teaching."

### House keeps ban on funding for groups involved in forced abortions

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The House, by a 216-211 vote July 15, maintained a ban on U.S. funding for organizations that promote forced

abortions or sterilizations. The legislation, supported by Catholic and other pro-life leaders, keeps intact U.S. policy that has been in place since 1985. In a statement released the same day, Gail Quinn, executive director of the U.S. bishops' Secretariat for Pro-Life Activities, said that with the vote, House members "affirmed the dignity of women and their unborn children in developing nations." "Coerced abortion has been condemned throughout the international community as a crime against humanity and as an act

of violence against women," Quinn said, adding that she hoped the Senate also will take "the right action" and keep the ban in place.

### Pope asks Catholics to pray for church's faithfulness to God

CASTEL GANDOLFO, Italy (CNS) — Pope John Paul II asked Catholics to pray that the church never falls short of faithfulness to God. "The church is our mother," he told pilgrims July 16 at his weekly general audience, which was held in a small inner courtyard of the papal summer residence outside Rome. "She feeds her numerous children with her spouse's word and the sacraments. Let us pray for the church that she may always be faithful to her Lord," he said. The pope, continuing a series of audience talks on the Bible passages that make up the Liturgy of the Hours, focused on an Old Testament canticle from Isaiah.

### Program finds success in engaging Catholics in social justice efforts

WILMINGTON, Del. (CNS) — Jack Jezreel said that when he arrived at a large parish in Louisville, Ky., in 1988 to head the office of social ministry he was "full of fire and confidence." But after three months of putting out bulletin inserts, fliers, posters and invitations and doing "everything I knew how to do," only four people had shown up at his meetings. He was ready to quit. Instead, Jezreel developed JustFaith, a small-group program designed to restore a parish's sense of mission and engage more Catholics in working for social justice. About 50 people from St. Helena's, Immaculate Heart of Mary and Resurrection parishes in the Wilmington Diocese gathered at St. Helena's recently to hear Jezreel talk about how JustFaith can be the answer to a need that is familiar to many parishes. JustFaith is now used by about 200 U.S. parishes and is sponsored by Catholic Charities through an office Jezreel directs. Next year, he said, he expects up to 4,000 new parishioners to enroll.

p.m. at St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy. For more information, call Marilyn Borrelli at (704) 542-2283.

**5 GREENSBORO** — "Theology on Tap" sessions are held Tuesday evenings at Anton's on Battleground at 7 p.m. For more information, e-mail greensborotot@yahoo.com.

**6 ALBEMARLE** — The Forever Young Club of Our Lady of the Annunciation Church, 416 N. 2nd St., will have a meeting and a covered dish lunch in the Family Life Center at 10 a.m. For further details, call Gerald Maiden (704) 982-5261.

**6 CHARLOTTE** — The Happy Timers of St. Ann Church, 3635 Park Rd., will have a meeting with a luncheon and program at 1 p.m. in the parish activity center. All adults age 55 and older are welcome. For more information about the senior group or bingo Thursdays at 7 p.m., call Charles Nesto at (704) 398-0879.

**7 WINSTON-SALEM** — The Healing Companions is a grief support group for the bereaved which meets the first and

third Thursdays of the month in Conference Room B at St. Leo the Great Church, 335 Springdale Ave. For further details, call Joanne Parcel at (336) 924-9478.

**7 CHARLOTTE** — St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Pkwy., will host an Ultreya weekend for women August 7-10. For more information, call Dan Hines at (704) 544-6665.

**7 HICKORY** — St. Aloysius Church, 921 Second St. NE, will hold a charismatic Mass the first Thursday of each month in Sebastian Chapel at 7 p.m. For further information, contact Joan Moran (828)-327-0487.

**10 CHARLOTTE** — A charismatic Mass will be held at St. Patrick Cathedral, 1621 Dilworth Rd. East, at 4 p.m. with prayer teams at 3 p.m. and a potluck dinner follows at 5 p.m. in the school cafeteria. For further information, contact Susan Lew at (704) 849-0214.

**11 FRANKLIN** — The Women's Guild of St. Francis of Assisi Church, 299 Maple St., have their monthly meeting at 7 p.m. in the Family Life Center. The meetings fea-

ture guest speakers and special events periodically. For more information, call Claire Barnable at (828) 369-1565.

**13 CHARLOTTE** — The 50+ Club of St. John Neumann Church, 8451 Idlewild Rd., conducting a meeting at 11 a.m. with a program and lunch in the parish center. Donations are being accepted during the meeting. For more information, call Lucille Kroboth at (704) 537-2189.

**13 CHARLOTTE** — The "Faithful Friends Tour" with national recording artists Tony Melendez, Steve Angrisano and the Toe Jam Band will be in concert at 8 p.m. at St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy. For ticket information, call St. Matthew parish office (704) 543-7677 or (800) 332-0763. Sponsored by St. Matthew's Youth Ministry and Good News Ministries of NC.

**15 CHARLOTTE** — St. Luke Church, 13700 Lawyers Rd., will host a supper 6-9 p.m. in the Family Life Center. Admission is one non-perishable food item per person. Terri Jarina, parish social ministry director and diocesan coordinator for the Catho-

lic Relief Services/Operation Rice Bowl, will be presenting photos and information about her tour with CRS in May to Benin (West Africa) and discussing CRS operations. All are welcome. For more information, call Laura Laney at (704) 764-8169.

**19 BOONE** — The Boone Vicariate Hispanic Catholic Ministry will host the Mobile Mexican Consulate today beginning at 8 a.m. in the Watagua High School gymnasium, 400 High School Dr. The Mexican Consul staff will offer Mexican identification documentation service to the Mexican population of Boone, Jefferson, Sparta, N. Wilkesboro, Spruce Pine and nearby areas. For information on specific documentation and requisites, please call Jaime Sevilla, vicariate coordinator, at (336) 927-4259.

*Please submit notices of parish events for the Diocesan Planner at least 15 days prior to the event date in writing to Karen A. Evans at kaevans@charlottediocese.org or fax to (704) 370-3882.*



## Cardinal urges evangelization efforts

HISPANICS, from page 1

"I believe every church has some Hispanics in their parish territory," said Sister Andrea.

Cardinal McCarrick urged greater use of church resources for Hispanic ministry. Hispanic ministry has to use radio, television, street preaching and Spanish-language newspapers to reach people, he said.

The cardinal said many Hispanics living illegally in the United States do not come to church because they fear that immigration agents are at Mass looking for them.

Most Hispanic youths are too poor to go to Catholic schools, he added. "If they are not in our schools we have to look for them and form youth clubs," he said.

Another problem is the lack of vocations to priestly and religious life among Hispanics, said the cardinal.

A major problem is that some young Hispanics with potential vocations lack the necessary high school education to qualify for seminary admission, he said.

"We have to search for ways to change this," he said.

U.S. census figures report that in 2000, more than one-third of Hispanics between the ages of 18 and 24 did not finish high school.

Carmelite Father David Blanchard said church ministry for Hispanics has evolved over the decades from one of providing handouts to the poor to working toward incorporation of Hispanics into all levels of church life.

"Hispanics are not asking for used clothes anymore. They want to be part of the organization," said Father Blanchard, an expert in cultural anthropology and the role of popular religiosity in evangelization.

"The Hispanics are not just here to sit in the pews," said Sister Andrea. "We need to integrate them into the fabric of the church, including positions of authority. We need to help the young people

become educated."

Father Blanchard said Hispanic ministry is not one of transition by which Hispanics are assimilated into a U.S. church, but a "ministry of the soul" by which Hispanics share their gifts.

A multicultural church being promoted by Hispanic ministry also provides "an alternative social model" for the country at large as different racial and ethnic groups celebrate together as one religion, he said.

Alejandro Aguilera-Titus, associate director of the U.S. bishops' Secretariat for Hispanic Affairs, said Hispanic ministry is expanding beyond providing pastoral care, but this is being done at a time when resources are shrinking.

Because of the increased needs of the Hispanic community, Hispanic ministry is expanding into social services, immigration services and youth services, said Aguilera-Titus.

But the moral crisis in the church, because of the clergy sex abuse scandals and the economic crisis in the country, is producing a "culture of scarcity" in which Hispanic ministry is often put "on the back burner," he said.

However, said Sister Andrea, the Diocese of Charlotte is making big strides in implementing the U.S. bishops' 2000 pastoral statement, "Welcoming the Stranger Among Us: Unity in Diversity." The diocese has nine Hispanic ministry coordinators serving the 10 vicariates, and a diocesan youth-young adult Hispanic ministry coordinator, she said, to be resources for pastors and parishioners in implementing programs and assisting Hispanic parishioners.

"We are trying to look at Hispanic ministry not as something extra or parallel, but something that should be a part of every parish's ministry," said Sister Andrea.

"Welcoming the stranger is something every parish needs to do," she said. "Look around, see who the strangers are and welcome them as brothers and sisters, for that is who they are."

## Welcoming the stranger

Diocese welcomes new North Carolinians

By KAREN A. EVANS

STAFF WRITER

CHARLOTTE — Diocesan employees learned about the "New North Carolinians" — immigrants — in a presentation by Raleigh Bailey, Ph.D., director of the UNC-Greensboro Center for New North Carolinians, July 18 at the diocesan Pastoral Center.

The program was sponsored by the Diocesan Diversity Committee in order to create an awareness of the church of the present, said Janice Ritter, assistant superintendent of diocesan Catholic schools and committee member.

According to Bailey, western North Carolina has a fast-growing foreign-born population, with more than 10,000 new immigrants each year. Many are refugees, escaping from religious persecution or war. Others come to the United States for economic opportunity.

"Immigrants are a resource that make us a stronger community," said Bailey. "We are a better, more enriched society because of the constant flow of new cultures."

According to Bailey, immigrant workers have historically driven the American economy, making significant contributions to the tax base. They typically have a strong work ethic and develop new businesses and markets. In addition, they draw disproportionately on the health, education and legal systems, he said.

"Catholic social teaching calls us in a special way to remember those who are poor and marginalized," said Joe Purello, director of the Office of Justice and Peace. "Certainly refugees and immigrants, often lacking adequate civil protection, and often struggling to make ends meet in a strange land, are in need of our attention and support."

"Pope John Paul II has in the past spoken of the Holy Family's experience as strangers in a foreign land," he said. "As Christians in the Diocese of Char-

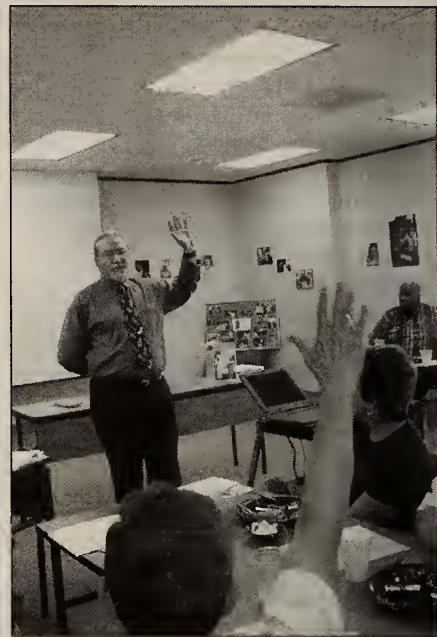


PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

Raleigh Bailey, Ph.D., questions diocesan employees about their ethnic backgrounds during a presentation on the immigrant population of the Diocese of Charlotte.

lotte, we should pray for the gift and practice of hospitality — to see in the faces of the strangers in our midst here in North Carolina, the faces of the Holy Family fleeing into Egypt asking to be welcomed."

"The immigrants who are arriving in North Carolina are bearers of gift," said Franciscan Sister Andrea Inkrott, director of Hispanic Ministry. "If I look at persons who are different from me as objects of fear or suspicion, I will miss seeing the gifts that they offer and I will be the poorer for it."

Contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans by calling (704) 370-3354 or e-mail [kaevans@charlottediocese.org](mailto:kaevans@charlottediocese.org).

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# Guided by 'Uncle Bishop'

*Brevard relative believes sainted uncle inspires family ministries, prayer life*

By JOANITA M. NELLENBACH  
CORRESPONDENT

BREVARD — To the Pelczar family, he's long been "Uncle Bishop." To all the world, he's now St. Joseph Sebastian Pelczar.

Kathleen Logsdon, née Pelczar, her husband, George, parishioners at Sacred Heart Church, and other Pelczar family members from the United States and Poland attended the May 18 ceremony in St. Peter's Square at which Pope John Paul II proclaimed four new saints.

During the ceremony, each new saint's name was announced: St. Joseph Sebastian Pelczar, St. Urzula Ledóchowska, St. Maria De Mattias and St. Virginia Centurione Bracelli.

"Even if he hadn't been a member of the family, it would have been thrilling," Kathleen Logsdon said of the canonization, "but to know that he was a relative, when they said Joseph Sebastian Pelczar, there wasn't one relative who didn't have tears rolling down their faces."

Father Joseph Sebastian Pelczar (1842-1924) founded the Congregation of the Sister Servants of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus in 1894. Today, the order has convents in the United States, Poland, France, the Vatican, Italy, Africa, South America and Ukraine. A biography on The Catholic Community Forum's Web site ([www.catholiccommunityforum.com/saints/saintjfb.htm](http://www.catholiccommunityforum.com/saints/saintjfb.htm)) notes he started hundreds of libraries ... and founded the Fraternity of Our Lady, Queen of the Polish Crown, to care for the poor, orphans, apprentices, servants, the sick and unemployed.

Bishop of Przemysl, Poland, from 1900-1924, he visited parishes, supported religious orders, conducted three synods and worked for the education and religious formation of his priests. The bishop encouraged everyone in devotion to the Eucharist, the Sacred Heart of Jesus and Mary.



Kathleen Logsdon, a Sacred Heart Church parishioner, poses in Rome with a portrait of St. Joseph Sebastian Pelczar, her granduncle.

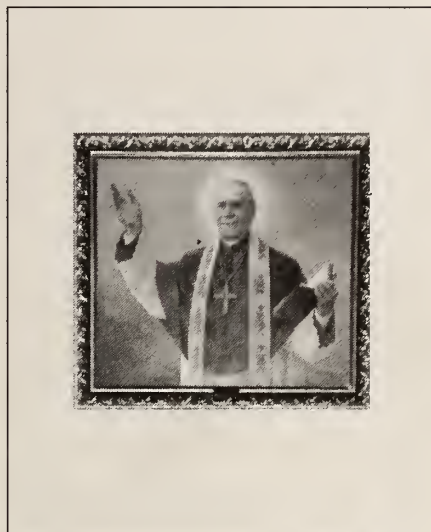
Logsdon said that he "directed the clergy to get out of the rectories, get into the church and on your knees before the Blessed Sacrament, and you will have all the grace you need."

Bishop Pelczar, the biography notes, built and restored churches, built nurseries, kitchens, homeless shelters and schools for the poor; gave tuition assistance to poor seminarians; and worked to implement Pope Leo XIII's social doctrine. St. Joseph Sebastian's writings include books, pastoral letters, sermons, addresses and prayers.

In his May 18 sermon, the pope quoted from the saint's writings, saying the path to perfection is open to all people regardless of their condition of life or their age.

"God considers not external things but the soul and demands only that which we can give," the saint wrote.

St. Joseph Sebastian also helped poor farm girls migrating to Przemysl. The girls knew little about their religion, and, without job training to help



COURTESY PHOTO

them gain more acceptable employment, some had turned to prostitution.

"When he became bishop, he sent notices to all the churches to say that he would teach girls about their faith and have someone teach them to be cooks and seamstresses," Logsdon said.

The American Pelczars initially knew little about Uncle Bishop. "My grandfather would tell my dad that he had an uncle who was a bishop in Poland and was a very holy man and, therefore, he was to be holy," Logsdon said.

Logsdon's grandfather, the bishop's nephew, had immigrated to the United States to avoid military service in the Austro-Hungarian army in World War I; he believed that the Austrian kaiser's position on the war was unjust. (In 1914, the nation of Poland did not exist. It had partitioned into other countries' territories in the 1700s, but was reconstituted as a republic in 1918.)

Fearing that his European family might suffer reprisals for his refusal to serve, the nephew didn't communicate with them. Bishop Pelczar aided the

wounded on the front lines of World War I during a Russian invasion.

In the 1970s, Logsdon's sister, Paula, researched the family history and learned more about the bishop when she visited relatives in Poland. The family believes their uncle has guided them in their ministries and their prayer life.

"By finding out about him — his holiness, his devotion to the Sacred Heart — my father had a real devotion to him," Logsdon said.

She said her aunts Ann and Olga cleaned St. Columba Church in a Polish neighborhood in Chicago; they cooked for church events, including weddings for hundreds of people. "They felt Uncle Bishop had been inspiring them," she said.

"When I found out about his life and the things he did, he's just had a huge influence on my life," Logsdon said. "I was on the library board in Peoria (Ill.), and when I found out that the bishop started libraries, I said, 'Well, [my involvement] makes sense.' The more I learned about him, the more I realized I had a responsibility to do the things he did."

In Peoria, Logsdon worked with women drug addicts who were trying to amend their lives; many had lost custody of their children. Logsdon helped them get emergency food and find jobs. "They needed someone to treat them with respect," she said. "They would be so excited that someone would ask about their children. I wanted to teach these women that God loved them."

Now, she's among Sacred Heart parishioners volunteering at Sharing House, an interdenominational organization in Brevard that provides clothing, food and other emergency assistance to low-income people.

She strongly feels her connection to Uncle Bishop: "This whole idea of 'communion of saints' came so much to life for me through knowing about him."

Catholic News Service reports contributed to this story.

Contact Correspondent Joanita M. Nellenbach by calling (828) 627-9209 or e-mail [jjnell@dnet.net](mailto:jjnell@dnet.net).



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## Book invites readers to 'Come and See' Mother Teresa

ATLANTA — Mother Teresa's beatification in October is expected to be one of the biggest international events of the year. People around the world are expected to be scrambling for memorabilia relating to the renowned nun.

Prior to Mother Teresa's death in 1997, one photojournalist, Linda Schaefer, was personally invited to make a photographic journey through Mother Teresa's world. The results are the historic and spectacular "Come and See: A Photojournalist's Journey into the World of Mother Teresa."



"Come and See: A Photojournalist's Journey into the World of Mother Teresa," by Linda Schaefer. DC Press (Florida, 2003) 160 pp. \$29.95.

Schaefer has captured what few people can imagine.

The former CNN editor and photojournalist first met Mother Teresa when she was hired by the Archdiocese of Atlanta to photograph her 1995 visit. Schaefer later flew to Calcutta and went to the headquarters of the Missionaries of Charity, requesting permission to photograph their work. Mother Teresa emphatically responded "no," because she felt too many had become rich from books about her with the poor and sick getting nothing.

Mother Teresa further challenged Schaefer to put down her cameras and become a volunteer in the orphanages and house of the dying. After observing Schaefer's sincerity and dedication, Mother Teresa gave her a handwritten note granting full access to all of her facilities. Her vocal directive: "... show the real world in which I live and work."

The photographs speak for themselves. The book, being released in conjunction with the beatification ceremonies in Rome this fall, features 160 full-color photographs capturing the reality of poverty, sickness and death wrapped tightly in love and joy. Images include portraits, dramatic "insider's photographs" and never-before-seen ceremonies involving Mother Teresa, the Missionaries of Charity, the international team of volunteers and the thousands of poor and sick served in her facilities throughout India.

Bishop William G. Curlin, bishop emeritus, who was a friend of Mother Teresa's, wrote the preface to Schaefer's book.

"'Come and See' is the story of a woman's search for peace — in mind and heart," writes Bishop Curlin. "Linda Schaefer's wonderful photographs and recording of her meeting with Mother Teresa of Calcutta and accepting Mother Teresa's invitation to share her ministry to the poorest of the poor will surely help others in search of inner peace in mind and heart to discover these gifts in our serving the least among us."

## Missionaries of Charity seek legal protection of Mother Teresa's name

By CINDY WOODEN  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

ROME (CNS) — The Missionaries of Charity are seeking legal protection of the name of their founder, Mother Teresa of Calcutta, as well as the name of the order and the order's logo.

Sister Nirmala Joshi, Mother Teresa's successor as superior general, said in a July 9 statement that Mother Teresa "expressed on a number of occasions her wish that her name not be used by any other individuals or organizations without her permission."

"Respecting her wish, we have made the same request many times since her death in 1997 and shall continue to do so," said the statement faxed from the order's motherhouse in Calcutta.

Mother Teresa, who died in Calcutta at the age of 87, is scheduled to be beatified by Pope John Paul II at the Vatican Oct. 19.

The program of events surrounding the beatification and a form for request-

ing free tickets to the Mass are available on the sainthood cause's official Web site: [www.motherteresacause.info](http://www.motherteresacause.info).

The Missionaries of Charity have filed for the legal protection of the names with the copyright office of India's Ministry of Human Resource Development.

Mother Teresa, the Missionaries of Charity and the order's logo can be protected under India's 1950 Emblems and Names Act, which already protects the names of Mahatma Gandhi; India's first prime minister, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru; and the 17th-century King Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj.

Sister Nirmala said, "We are grateful to all those who have thus far complied with our request to remove the name of Mother Teresa from their organizations' names, such as the Mother Teresa Institute of Management," a secular school being built in Delhi.

A bank in Hyderabad also was convinced to drop its plans to use Mother Teresa's name.

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# Reflections of Africa

## ORB-funded projects benefit women in Benin

By TERRI JARINA

SPECIAL TO THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

*Editor's Note: Terri Jarina, parish, social ministry program director and Catholic Relief Services' Operation Rice Bowl coordinator with the Office of Justice and Peace, traveled May 21-30 to Benin, Africa, with representatives of diocesan CRS, U.S. bishops' Social Development and World Peace, and CRS in Baltimore, Md.*

BENIN, West Africa — "To educate a woman is to educate a nation," Archbishop Nestor Assogba of Cotonou, Benin, told our eight-member Catholic Relief Services (CRS) delegation. Educating women and children is the primary focus of CRS' Operation Rice Bowl (ORB) programs in 40 countries worldwide, including Benin.

This year, Catholics in the Diocese of Charlotte donated \$41,481.97 to ORB, CRS' annual Lenten appeal. The major portion of the ORB collection is used by CRS to help people who are poor in other countries. In May, our delegation saw how a portion of that collection is used in nine CRS-supported projects in Benin, where 71.3 percent of the women have no formal education. CRS helps provide financing for small businesses, school lunches, maternal health and nutrition, and literacy education in rural villages throughout the country.

Benin's economy depends upon subsistence agriculture; cotton production; production of textiles, palm products and cocoa; and regional trade, according to the CIA World Fact Book. CRS spent \$7.6 million last year in Benin, slightly more than two percent of its annual \$344 million budget. Surrounded by Togo, Burkina Faso, Niger, Nigeria and the Gulf of Guinea, Benin, about the size of Pennsylvania, is home to 7 million inhabitants.

Our group visited orphanages, health clinics, various educational programs, community centers, a school canteen and small businesses — all supported by startup costs or food distribution from CRS.

The Oasis Orphanage in Cotonou was our first stop. CRS serves as an intermediary in providing United States Agency for International Development (USAID) food for the Oasis School. Oasis is a safe haven for orphans whose parents have died of HIV/AIDS or other diseases and for children kidnapped and sold within Benin and outside the country. Whenever possible, Oasis staff members strive to reunite the children with their families.

Our next stop was the rural village of Dra in the town of Sakete. Community development is fostered in Dra through a CRS-supported nutrition and growth-monitoring program. After the bi-weekly nutrition presentation, the CRS trainers weigh the women's babies and chart their growth. As an outgrowth of the nutrition program, the villagers have built fish ponds where they raise tilapia to sell within their village. Eventually, they hope to raise enough fish to market them outside the village.

In the village of Louho, on the out-

skirts of the capital city of Porto Novo, we visited a resident and day school for the deaf and hearing impaired. With USAID supplies, CRS provides enough food for three meals a day for the children and the staff. We arrived on a Friday afternoon when the students were involved in activities such as making aluminum pots from recycled materials, cosmetology, weaving and appliqué.

Our day at Project Sedekon in Davaugon was filled with a visit to the health clinic, where patients are treated for HIV/AIDS, typhoid and other deadly diseases; lunch at the community center; and accompanying CRS staff members as they visited outpatients in their homes. CRS partners with Caritas Benin in supporting this clinic.

In a round mud hut with a thatched roof, a CRS employee presented a health information session on the transmission of malaria. The hut was built by CRS to serve as a community center in the village of Waranru on the outskirts of Parakou. Nearby, a concrete structure housed a maternity clinic with beds for five mothers and their babies, and a wooden table with a hole in the center in the labor room.



Above left: Terri Jarina, coordinator of Catholic Relief Services' Operation Rice Bowl, displays an appliqué map of Benin, Africa, which she purchased in the city of Cotonou during her May 21-30 trip to observe ORB-assisted projects. The map features symbols representing kings who once ruled the various villages. Above right: Residents of the village Dra gather fish from a man-made pond where they raise tilapia to sell within the village.



PHOTOS BY KEVIN E. MURRAY, TERRI JARINA

## Grants for local initiatives

A small portion of the CRS' ORB collection is used here in the diocese to fund small grants for local initiatives on international, immigrant, or migrant issues and activities promoting Catholic social teaching. During the spring 2003 ORB mini-grant cycle, the five-member CRS Diocesan Committee awarded \$500 to each of the following projects:

— **Hispanic Faith Formation Program**, Ellerbe, N.C. — Administered by St. James Church in Hamlet, this project provides faith formation classes for Hispanic children in Ellerbe.

— **Go Where They Are Hispanic Faith Formation Program**, Hamlet — Catechists from St. James Church will offer

faith formation classes in the homes of Hispanics who have no transportation.

— **Go Where They Are Hispanic Faith Formation Program**, Wadesboro — Catechists from Sacred Heart Church will offer faith formation classes in the homes of Hispanics who have no transportation.

— **Native American Cultural Evening**, Smoky Mountain Vicariate — A cultural presentation to share the rich Cherokee heritage at the Bishop Begley Conference on Appalachia at Lake Junaluska in October 2003.

— **Parish Community Needs Ministry**, Brevard — Sacred Heart Church parishioners provide temporary supplement-

of how the women grow and prepare food items by manual labor with the loans from Sia N'Son. CRS supports the microfinance programs principally through the monetization of United States Department of Agriculture food.

The entire village greeted us at the public school in the village of Gbegorou. At this school, CRS donates USDA food and provides a stipend for the cooks to prepare two meals a day for every child in the school. The school canteen is a cooperative effort between CRS, the school administration and the local parent-teacher association. The students' parents send in food to supplement the CRS contributions, with the ultimate goal of self-sufficiency and self-reliance among the local people.

Through its programs to educate and train women and children, CRS continues to encourage hope among the people of Benin and elsewhere.

### WANT MORE INFORMATION?

If you would like to arrange a presentation on Terri Jarina's visit to Benin, on the work of CRS or on the ORB program, contact her at (704) 370-3234 or [thjarina@charlottediocese.org](mailto:thjarina@charlottediocese.org).

tal assistance and opportunities for celebration among a multi-national parish community.

— **Refugee Resettlement Ministry**, Charlotte — A 17-member St. Matthew Church Refugee Resettlement Team serves as mentors for two recently relocated Montagnard families.

During the fall 2003 ORB grant cycle, applications are available for ORB grants up to \$1,000. Parish, school or college groups or organizations may apply; the deadline is Sept. 15, 2003. The grant application is available at [www.cccnc.org/justicepeace](http://www.cccnc.org/justicepeace).

For more information, contact Terri Jarina at (704) 370-3234 or e-mail [thjarina@charlottediocese.org](mailto:thjarina@charlottediocese.org).



## Cardinal Bevilacqua to celebrate Masses in Charlotte



CNS FILE PHOTO BY NANCY WIECHEC

Cardinal Anthony J. Bevilacqua of Philadelphia leads the annual Vigil for Life in Washington earlier this year.

CHARLOTTE — Cardinal Anthony J. Bevilacqua, pro-life advocate and chairman of the U.S. bishops' Committee on Pro-Life Activities, will celebrate two Masses in Charlotte.

Cardinal Bevilacqua, who recently retired at age 80 as head of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, is in Charlotte for the annual conference of diocesan pro-life directors and state Catholic conference directors July 31-Aug. 2.

The cardinal holds a master's degree in political science from Columbia University in New York, a doctorate in canon law from the Gregorian University in Rome and a doctorate in civil law from St. John's University in Jamaica, N.Y. Admitted to the New York and Pennsylvania bars and to the bar of the U.S. Supreme Court in 1988, he may be the only cardinal in U.S. history accredited to argue cases before that body.

### Want to go?

Cardinal Bevilacqua will celebrate Mass at St. Peter Church, 507 South Tryon Street in Charlotte, at 8 a.m. on Thursday, July 31; and 8 a.m. on Friday, Aug. 1.

## Teens work and play in Alaska

ALASKA, from page 1

Father Richard Allen, a retired diocesan priest now serving as a traveling priest in the mission lands of Alaska, coordinated the expedition.

In a state where 54,359 Catholics live in an area approximately one-fifth the size of the continental U.S., Catholic churches are small and far-flung.

Father Allen's purpose in organizing the trip was two-fold: to provide much-needed service to parishes in the Archdiocese of Anchorage and to expose North Carolina youths to the distinctive lifestyle of Alaskan Catholics.

"My own early days in North Carolina in the 1950s offered me the chance to see how others experience their life and faith in a different and challenging social and religious atmosphere," said Father Allen.

"Mission work is not intended to help us to 'feel sorry' for these people that we encounter," he said. "But to realize the great efforts others have to make to live their faith and social life in this modern world."

The Charlotte missionaries spent two weeks working and sleeping at churches in Talkeetna, Cordova, Eagle River and Valdez. Much of the labor was typical mission work — preparing Vacation Bible School materials, cleaning a home for single mothers and a homeless shelter. However, this group had the unique mission of helping unload 47,000 pounds of thawing salmon.

"The youth groups from Charlotte and Mooresville came to Cordova and painted for three days in the rain and never let the sun escape from their hearts," said Father Tom Killeen, pastor of St. Joseph Church in tiny Cordova.

"The sun came out as they left on the ferry, but never it matched the sun they carried with them," he said. "They are delightful, hardworking and joyful."

The number of Catholics in Cordova, which has a year-round population of 2,455, doubled with the arrival of the missionaries. The group from Charlotte provided the manpower necessary to paint the exterior of the church, weed the group of the cemetery and pick up rocks out of the road.

"We surprised most parishioners and Father Tom by painting the church in two days," said Abi Rothe, one of the chaperones and a St. Ann parishioner. "The group also cleaned up 20 years of



COURTESY PHOTO

overgrowth in the cemetery."

The missionaries' work not only consisted of physical labor, but also works of faith. They attended Mass on most days and they met Archbishop Roger L. Schwietz, who handed out "Wild about Anchorage" buttons and answered questions about the archdiocese.

Father Allen made sure the Carolinians experienced some of Alaska's culture and natural wonders as well. Taking advantage of 23 hours of daylight, they fished, hiked, panned for gold and visited the Iditarod Trail Museum, where they played with sled dogs.

The highlight of the trip was a plane ride around Denali National Park that took them within six miles of Mount McKinley, the highest peak in North America. That evening they watched the sunset over Mount McKinley — at midnight.

"This whole trip would have not been the same without the knowledge, generosity and love of Father Allen; we all appreciate him more than words can say," said Rothe.

"He showed us a wonderful time and gave us more gifts than we could have ever asked for," she said. "We really got a chance to see, firsthand, God working through people everyday we were there."

"The magnitude and beauty of God's creation is truly shown off here in our 49th state," Father Allen said. "The Catholic Church in Alaska was blessed by the presence and hard work of the missionaries."

Contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans by calling (704) 370-3354 or e-mail [kaevans@charlottediocese.org](mailto:kaevans@charlottediocese.org).

Parishioners of St. Therese Church and St. Ann Church gather in front of a unique road sign in Alaska.

The Archdiocese of Anchorage covers 150,000 square miles, making it the largest U.S. diocese in geographic area. But it has just 21 priests — one for every 7,000 square miles. Many parishes are accessible only by air or water. Of these 21 rural missions, only six are served by resident priest pastors.

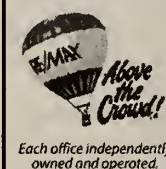
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# HCY serve Tennessee needy

WORKCAMP, from page 1

nationwide. This year, there are 22 in the United States and one in Jamaica.

HEART ("Helping Everyone Attain Repairs Today") camps work with local agencies to provide help in the neediest neighborhoods. It fits right in with HCY's motto: "Living Christ's Love Through Service to Others."

"Our goal is always to help them grow in their relationship with God," said Steve Bernardi, HCY coordinator. "I want them to come away with a sense of the importance of service. This is a time in all teen-agers' lives where faith is a struggle. It's important to provide them with opportunities often to grow in their faith. [We want] to inspire them to come home and not only serve but to lead other youth in service."

Catholic HEART Workcamp was the first activity HCY participated in after forming four years ago.

Like Friberg, Amy Warwick has attended all four workcamps. This year she helped repair a porch and painted and cleaned the house of an 80-year-old woman with limited mobility.

"I think it's awesome, it's a great experience," Warwick said of her HEART Camp trip. "Going off to college, I need that spiritual boost. Most of the teen-agers are there for the same reason — to get closer to God. It's a major retreat and mission."

HCY's contingent of 17 youth and five adults joined some 330 others at the Nashville camp. Everyone was housed at Father Ryan High School.

"Since there aren't a lot of Catholic kids in Haywood County, it was nice to be around so many Catholic kids," Warwick said.

Daniel Verges' group helped a shy elderly lady. They caulked her windows and scraped paint in the rain, then repainted her house.

All HEART attendees are split into groups, so that people from various churches work together. Jason Higgins, youth minister at St. John Church, was in a group with youth from Virginia, Texas, Florida and Pennsylvania.

"They do that on purpose," Bernardi said. "They want you to be outside your box."

After breakfast and morning prayer, the groups set out for their day's assignments, working in tem-



COURTESY PHOTO

**Haywood County Youth member Stephani Bernardi holds a ladder for Traci Higgins, an HCY youth minister, during Catholic HEART Workcamp week in Nashville, Tenn.**

peratures often in the 90s. In the evenings, everyone returned to the school for music and spiritual talks.

Among the places where Sara Bernardi's group worked was the home of a woman whose foot had been amputated because of diabetes. The small five-room house was dirty, infested with cockroaches and other insects. The group cleaned the house, washed a slew of dirty dishes and even washed the woman's dog.

"I was grateful for everything I have," Bernardi said. "A lot of these people don't have the luxuries we have."

Friberg was on a crew that built wheelchair ramps at people's homes. Steve Bernardi, a building contractor, worked with others to replace siding and repair roofs in Franklin, Tenn., damaged by recent tornadoes.

"I have to say it was a good decision," said Jan Porvaznik, an exchange student from Bratislava, Slovakia, who had just finished a semester at Tuscola High School. "It brought me closer to God. This experience will be in my heart forever that I got to help people. Helping people who need help is what we are here for. I believe God wanted me to do this. Everybody should do this once in their life."

Contact Correspondent Joanita M. Nellenbach by calling (828) 627-9209 or e-mail [jnell@dnet.net](mailto:jnell@dnet.net).

# Faith in action

Teens visit Charlotte area for volunteer work

By KEVIN E. MURRAY

EDITOR

**BELMONT** — Hundreds of teen-agers traded a week of summer vacation for volunteer service around the Charlotte area

Over 370 high school students from Indiana, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Virginia and Wisconsin participated in Catholic HEART Workcamp 2003 in Charlotte June 29-July 5. Charlotte Catholic High School served as one of 23 Catholic HEART (Helping Everyone Attain Repairs Today) camps throughout the United States and Jamaica.

Based in Orlando, Fla., the camps, held June through August, have popped up in over 20 states with between 300 and 500 teens at each camp. The camps offer service projects and evangelical programs for Catholic young people and their leaders by working with local agencies in needy neighborhoods.

This was the fourth year the Diocese of Charlotte has hosted a camp. Service projects around Charlotte include working with agencies such as Love, Inc., Cherry Community Organization, Life Span, Crisis Assistance, Catholic Social Services, Catherine's House and Holy Angels.

Students, divided into 50 teams, painted, built wheelchair ramps and assisted with day care and yard work at various locations.

"It gives the less fortunate a better quality of life, such as fixing up homes for those who can't afford it," said Mary Jayne Dawson, campus minister at Charlotte Catholic High School and Charlotte manager for Catholic HEART Workcamp.

"It also ties the whole call to discipleship in with what we do," she said. "It's faith in action."

At Belmont's Holy Angels, a non-profit organization providing programs and services for child and adult residents with varying degrees of mental retardation, fourteen students — between 13 and 17 years old — and two group leaders spent the week offering much-needed manual assistance. Tasks included some remodeling work at the organization's Cherubs Café and Candy Bouquet in downtown Belmont and yard work at the administrative facility.

"They pulled weeds, planted trees and bushes, cut out and laid landscaping timbers and spread mulch all over the campus," said Will Berry, Holy Angels horticulturist. "They're hard workers. They made a difficult job for me a lot of

fun as a group."

"They're an awesome group. They really helped us — they provided us with kid power in projects that would be massive for one person or a small staff," said Mercy Sister Nancy Nance, Cherubs Café operations manager. "They're an awesome group and we depend on them to come in and do summertime work."

Sister Nancy said the camps are a great way for students to do a week of service during their summertime break.

"It's a great learning experience for them. It broadens their horizons," she said. "Most kids have never been around people with disabilities. They spent a week with them. Once you have done that, it changes your perspectives forever."

The residents were "enthralled with the group," said Sister Nancy. "That's why we do what we do — to incorporate our residents with everybody else."

"It was an amazing experience," said Tricia Brennan, 14, from Ardmore, Pa. "We had fun working with Holy Angels. The residents strengthened my faith so much. It makes me feel good serving others."

"I couldn't have asked for a better experience," said Beth Underwood, a group leader from Jasper, Ind. "I have more faith in the children and people in general."

"I was very impressed with a group of teens giving up a week of their summer to come here and do hard work," said Berry. "It was a learning experience for all involved, especially me."

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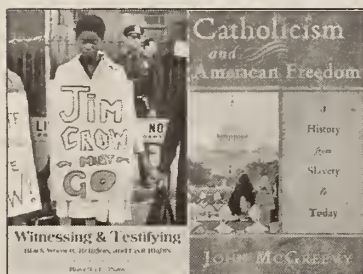
## Book Review

# American identity: religion, race, gender and civil rights

REVIEWED BY PATRICK J. HAYES  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

Ever since the founding of the republic, Catholics have steered a sometimes perilous course between ecclesial and ethnic loyalties and those liberties proclaimed by their adopted nation. John McGreevy, a professor of history at the University of Notre Dame, in "Catholicism and American Freedom" has now supplied the very best chronicle of this journey.

He begins in Boston in 1859 with the story of the Eliot School rebellion. It was sparked by 10-year-old Thomas Whall, a Catholic lad who declined to recite the



"Catholicism and American Freedom," by John McGreevy. W.W. Norton (New York, 2003). 431 pp., \$26.95.

"Witnessing and Testifying: Black Women, Religion and Civil Rights," by Rosetta E. Ross. Augsburg Fortress Press (Minneapolis, 2003). 294 pp., \$23.00.

Ten Commandments from the King James Version of the Bible as prescribed for all students enrolled in Massachusetts public schools. Whall was whipped for his refusal, and Boston's Know-Nothing party took the occasion to insist on Catholic compliance with the law. A suit was brought, and school officials were vindicated — much to the chagrin of the city's Catholics.

Whall's story leads into McGreevy's account of typical Catholic attitudes on education in the 19th century, as well as slavery and the Civil War. As the tale crosses over into the 20th century, McGreevy examines questions of the economic order brought on by Pope Leo XIII's social encyclicals. He then provides further chapters on American Catholicism's understanding of freedom as such, especially in light of Catholics' own increasing political influence at home as well as the theological development of the concept in Europe. Concluding chapters focus on issues under the heading of

personal liberties, including procreation, human rights and the consistent ethic of life.

McGreevy's clear prose is backed at every turn by thorough documentation from archives across the country, and should win the minds of lay readers and specialists alike. With this book, McGreevy has firmly lodged himself alongside the masters of American Catholic history: Peter Guilday, Thomas McAvoy, John Tracy Ellis, Philip Gleason and Jay Dolan.

McGreevy's star rose while teaching history at Harvard and in writing on black Catholics in the urban north. Racial uplift is also at the center of "Witnessing and Testifying: Black Women, Religion and Civil Rights," a book of minibiographies of black women activists of the 19th and 20th centuries. The author, Rosetta E. Ross, a Methodist elder and ethics professor at United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities, portrays the lives of one Muslim and six Christian champions for civil rights. Descriptions of each woman's upbringing and work are coupled with their witness and testimony to the power of God in their individual vocational pursuits.

Some names will be familiar, such as Sojourner Truth (Isabella Baumfree) and Fannie Lou Hamer. Others are more obscure, but pivotal to the civil rights movement of the last century. These include Ella Baker, one of the principals in backing both the Southern Christian Leadership Conference and the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee; grass-roots activist Victoria Way DeLee, a field officer for the NAACP in South Carolina during the 1950s and '60s; and Clara Muhammed, who, with her husband, Elijah Muhammed, were co-founders of the Nation of Islam. Two more women round out the biographies: Diane Nash, a Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee activist, and Septima Clark, a church worker who developed voter literacy programs that increased black voter registration throughout the South.

A running theme throughout Ross' biographical sketches is the quest for empowerment — not only in the personal standing of each of these women, but for all people. Their quest connects civic responsibility and the Gospel. This is more than a history of some pretty gutsy women of bygone days. They are models for today.

*Hayes is on the theology faculty at Quincy University in Quincy, Ill.*

TOO BUSY FOR ONE LAST KISS? DO YOU EVER FORGET TO KISS YOUR LOVED ONES AS YOU SAY YOUR DAILY "GOOD-BYES"? HOW DEVASTATED WOULD YOU BE IF YOU MISSED YOUR LAST CHANCE TO KISS THAT PERSON WHO MIGHT BE GONE FOREVER?

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—James A. Cox, Editor-in-Chief, The Midwest Book Review

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## Word to Life

Sunday Scripture Readings:  
July 27, 2003

July 27, Seventeenth Sunday of Ordinary Time

### Cycle B Readings:

- 1) 2 Kings 4:42-44  
Psalm 145:10-11, 15-18
- 2) Ephesians 4:1-6
- 3) Gospel: John 6:1-15

By BOZENA CLOUTIER  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

It was at a time when I was working in a big county hospital. The morning had been long and very busy. I was tired and hungry, but on looking at the clock realized that lunch hour was long over and the cafeteria closed. I resigned myself to something from a vending machine, but just then met my colleague, Summith, on his way to the staff lounge. He asked if I too was going there and so learned that I was about to find something to eat. On hearing that I'd not had lunch, he said: "I've not eaten either. I brought a sandwich today; will you share it with me?"

And so it was that we sat down at a table in the staff lounge. Summith unwrapped his sandwich and said the

blessing, making particular reference to the fact that the two of us would share this food, and asked God to bless it. And then we ate.

This incident came vividly to mind as I reflected on the readings for this weekend. In the first reading we are told of the prophet trusting God utterly to provide food for a crowd. The Gospel follows this theme and tells the well-known story of the multiplication of the loaves and fishes, where again a large crowd was fed with the paltry contents of a young boy's lunchbox that had been blessed by Jesus.

These are stories of faith or, to be even more specific, stories of trust — the kind of trust that rests in the assurance that despite evidence to the contrary, God will provide.

They are also stories of hospitality, the kind of hospitality we are in danger of losing in our society: hospitality that draws in, includes, cares for and shares whatever we have with others. Both trust and hospitality speak of openness. The first calls for an open heart, the second for a figurative open door. Both are also great biblical virtues and the hallmark of those on the spiritual journey.

## Weekly Scripture

### Scripture for the week of July 27 - August 2

Sunday (Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time), 2 Kings 4:42-44, Ephesians 4:1-6, John 6:1-15; Monday, Exodus 32:15-24, 30-34, Matthew 13:31-35; Tuesday (St. Martha), Exodus 33:7-11; 34:5-9, 28; John 11:19-27; Wednesday (St. Peter Chrysologus), Exodus 34:29-35, Matthew 13:44-46; Thursday (St. Ignatius of Loyola), Exodus 40:16-21, 34-38, Matthew 13:47-53; Friday (St. Alphonsus Liguori), Leviticus 23:1, 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34-37, Matthew 13:54-58; Saturday (St. Eusebius of Vercelli, St. Peter Julian Eymard), Leviticus 25:1, 8-17, Matthew 14:1-12

### Scripture for the week of August 3 - August 9

Sunday (Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time), Exodus 16:2-4, 12-15, Ephesians 4:17, 20-24, John 6:24-35; Monday (St. John Mary Vianney), Numbers 11:4-15, Matthew 14:13-21; Tuesday (Dedication of the Basilica of St. Mary in Rome), Numbers 12:1-13, Matthew 14:22-36; Wednesday (Transfiguration of the Lord), Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14, 2 Peter 1:16-19, Mark 9:2-10; Thursday (St. Sixtus II and companions, St. Cajetan), Numbers 20:1-13, Matthew 16:13-23; Friday (St. Dominic), Deuteronomy 4:32-40, Matthew 16:24-28; Saturday, Deuteronomy 6:4-13, Matthew 17:14-20

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## 'Seabiscuit' is sure-fire winner



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Tobey Maguire stars in "Seabiscuit," a fact-based, Depression-era tale of a horse that becomes a racetrack record-setter and lifts the spirits of the struggling American populace. The feel-good film is marred by some heavy-handedness but buoyed by classy period visuals and deft performances. An implied sexual encounter, brief racetrack and boxing ring violence and some profanity. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-III — adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13 — parents are strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.

## 'Magdalene Sisters' is exploitive, wicked film

BY GERRI PARE AND DAVID DICERTO  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

NEW YORK (CNS) — The severe living conditions in Catholic Church-run laundries in 1964 Ireland are sensationalized to the point of caricature in writer-director Peter Mullan's problematic melodrama "The Magdalene Sisters" (Miramax).

The fact that the austere Magdalene asylums existed is undeniable. Undoubtedly, a number of young women sent there by their parents or guardians were treated cruelly. However, Mullan puts forth an oversimplified, worst-case scenario in which every nun is a monster and the only priest connected with the laundry has forced a simple young woman confined there to yield to his sexual demands. An audience has a right to wonder whether the film is attempting to throw light on a painful, little-known situation or merely genuflecting at the altar of sensationalism while exploiting others' suffering.

The film centers on four young women who were sent off to perform manual labor in facilities known as the "Magdalene laundries" in order to be spiritually rehabilitated for their alleged sins of the flesh.

Mullan's narrative presents them as physically and verbally abused by the nuns in charge of the laundry as if the four actually existed. However, these characters are fictitious, made up from composites of stories Mullan heard from those who lived in the workhouses — a fact muddled by the coda that appears at the end of the film explaining "what became of" each of the characters.

As such, the movie's treatment of events exploits the facts to make it less a story of the four than a film aimed at positioning the church as one-dimensionally wicked. The nuns pictured are so uniformly sadistic and hypocritical that they make the infamous Nurse Ratched in "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest" seem like Mother Teresa.

Unlike what follows, the film's opening scene is well crafted. Using scant dialogue, it cinematically depicts young Margaret (Anne-Marie Duff) being lured upstairs during a wedding reception by her cousin, who then rapes her and proceeds to pin the blame on her. The next day her scornful parents turn her over to a priest who delivers her to a Magdalene laundry workhouse at the same time that orphaned flirt Bernadette (Nora-Jane Noone) and unwed mother Rose (Dorothy Duffy) arrive.

Insisting that they atone for their sins through hard manual labor, silence and no contact with the outside world, vicious Sister Bridget (Geraldine McEwan) brooks no questions and terrorizes the trio. Already veering toward madness is another unwed mother, the mentally challenged Crispina (Eileen Walsh), who believes she can communicate with her sister and toddler through her cherished St. Christopher medal. Overseeing the women's physical and spiritual well-being is a coven of Gestapo-like nuns.

This is the set-up. But beyond it, caricature trumps character. In place of narra-

tive, the film unreels one horror after another on the four young women in lurid, episodic fashion: brutal beatings and malicious mind games by the nuns, including a group shower-room scene involving extended full frontal nudity and taunting insults aimed at dehumanizing their humiliated charges.

The nuns, presented as consistently evil, money-grubbing, merciless hags, have no emotional depth. They are as exaggerated in their sadism as Ingrid Bergman is in celestial benevolence in "The Bells of St. Mary's" — the film Sister Bridget sheds a crocodile tear over at a Christmas screening. Not one ounce of human kindness — not to mention Christian compassion — can be found under any wimple or collar.

This painting with broad brush strokes is better suited for the propagandist than the dramatist. Regrettably, drama is jettisoned along with objectivity since this kind of stacking the deck drains the narrative of any inner tension. The result is a cavalcade of cartoonish vignettes that present to viewers about as nuanced a picture of Irish nuns as 1915's "The Birth of a Nation" did of African-Americans. This pervasive shallowness extends to the girls themselves. Despite overall strong performances, they serve as little more than props, punching bags for the sinister nuns to vent their fury.

While some blame is attached to parents who so readily banished daughters in difficulty to the harsh conditions of these laundries, any attempt to understand the forces that shaped these institutions, which had much to do with the distinct religious and cultural milieu of the time and place in which they flourished, is rejected. The righteous indignation felt for the girls, while justified by the suffering they endured, is wrung out of the audience through cheap, kick-the-puppy melodrama where the audience is manipulated to cheer when the nuns get a taste of their own medicine.

It's distressing that any Irish women had to endure the deplorable conditions of these workhouses. But the film never attempts to move beyond shrill finger-pointing toward any meaningful insights. In place of a sensitive examination of abuse of religious power, Mullan's simplistic approach in depicting all the religious in his script as gleeful villains only serves to undermine the credibility of his film.

Because of an exaggerated theme of abusive nuns, brutal beatings, sexual violence including rape and forced oral sex with a priest, an extended scene of dehumanizing full female nudity, an attempted suicide, sporadic rough language and brief profanity, the USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is O — morally offensive. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is R — restricted.

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## The Pope Speaks

POPE JOHN PAUL II

## God is both tender father, severe judge, pope says at audience

By CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

CASTEL GANDOLFO, Italy — Pope John Paul II urged believers to put themselves under the loving protection of God, whom he called both a severe judge and a tender father.

Speaking at his weekly general audience July 23, the pope continued a series of series of talks on the Liturgy of the Hours by focusing on Psalm 147.

The text invites believers to praise God for his lordship over history and all creation, he told about 2,500 pilgrims crowded into an inner courtyard of the Castel Gandolfo papal summer residence outside Rome.

"He is also revealed as a father who bends down to the interior and physical wounds present in his humiliated and oppressed people," the pope said.

But he said that while God "surrounds the poor with tenderness and care" he also rises up as a severe judge of the wicked.

"The Lord of history is not indifferent to the raging of the oppressors who believe themselves to be the sole arbitrators of human activity: God throws down into the dust of the earth those who challenge heaven with their arrogance," he said.

"The highest praise we can give to our God is to place all our trust and hope in him, giving our lives completely over to him and his plan of salvation for all people," the pope said.

## Ten relationship rules for the young, single and confused

I don't pretend to be Dr. Love, with the secrets of enduring and satisfying relationships. However, after responding to letters from young people for an advice column I wrote titled "Therese's Pieces of Advice: A Gen X Hotline," I know better now what not to do.

My relationship rules differ a little from those you'll read in the national best seller "The Rules," which promises the marriage proposal of the man of your dreams in 30 days or less. Mine are rooted in history, mistakes and a little research from the real Dr. Loves out there.

If you are young, single and confused, here's a little unsolicited advice — in the form of generalizations, of course. It's up to you to apply them to your relationship's specific dynamics.

### 1. Compatibility goes a long way.

This is common sense, really, but who looks for qualities in a spouse that you'd require in a roommate? Dr. John Van Epp, a marriage and family counselor, makes a bold argument in his video "How Not to Marry a Jerk": "Opposites attract, but differences divide." Not that you should marry your clone, but some similarities help when the going gets rough.

### 2. It's hard to teach an old dog new tricks.

If you are dating a guy who two-timed his previous four fiancées but claims to be different now, think twice about investing time into confirming his conversion.

### 3. What you see is what you get.

Beware of empty promises. The woman of your dreams loves five whiskey sours every evening but promises to cool it once you start a family? Think again. "I will's don't always materialize after 'I do.'"

### 4. Assumptions are the termites of relationship.

I wish I'd thought of that line myself, but I heard it somewhere. As much as certain people (including me) hate confrontation, clear communication is key to an honest, trusting relationship. Tackle misunderstandings before they snowball out of control.

### 5. You do marry the family.

You can't make fun of your in-laws too many times without getting in trouble. You don't have to agree with them or even like them, but you have to respect them

## Our Turn

THERESE J. BORCHARD  
CNS COLUMNIST



because blood is thicker than you think.

### 6. Be nice to each other.

There's a no-brainer that is more difficult than you think. Wait 10 seconds before you snap at your wife in public or say something after a few drinks that she will be sure to remember the next morning.

### 7. If you're not happy with yourself, you're not going to be happy with anyone.

Trying to find that special someone who will complete you in every area of your life? Better first clean out the baggage of your past and find a few things that fulfill you as a person.

### 8. Make time for each other.

If you are like me, time is your most valuable asset, which is why it's important to devote it to your life partner. Michael Leach, co-editor with me of "I Like Being Married" (Doubleday), contends that "familiarity breeds content."

### 9. Forgive.

Popular author Marianne Williamson once wrote that "without forgiveness love has no meaning." Not that you need to turn a blind eye to a husband who just cheated on you for the 30th time, but many relationships could benefit from a little forgiveness because no one is perfect.

### 10. Be careful where you get advice.

With just seven years into the game of marriage, I've got a lot to learn, which is why I rely on the experts — couples holding hands after a half century — for advice on love.

## Letters to the Editor

### Innocent until proven guilty

Thank you for having Father John Catoir's column ("How I see it: When a priest is falsely accused," June 27).

I have often thought recently that the process seems to condemn priests who are accused. The legal system in the United States is supposed to be one is innocent until proven guilty. The press seems to think priests are guilty until proven innocent. I don't remember seeing anything so clearly stated as Father Catoir's column.

Of course, those truly guilty need to be dealt with appropriately. But I expect there have been many false accusations.

There are very many good priests and bishops out there (including our retired bishop) who have been dealt with harshly by the press. I pray that we can get beyond this issue.

— Nancy Mosley  
Charlotte

### Donating umbilical cords OK

I was very concerned about Therese Borchard's column ("Science and pregnancy: The continual new issue," July 11) as it creates confusion about the issue of donating umbilical cords. Borchard wrote the idea made her "uncomfortable," but, in fact, there is no moral problem with donating an umbilical cord — it is morally no different than donating blood or bone marrow. In fact, it promotes the sanctity of human life by providing tissue for research, which eliminates reasons for people to consider the immoral use of human embryos.

It is wrong to do research on human embryos, whether using the tissue from aborted babies or cloning human beings for the purpose of obtaining stem cells. Some scientists mistakenly believe the good of developing cures for serious illnesses outweighs the evil intrinsic in destroying tiny human beings for research. The church rightly forbids stem cell research that depends on use of human embryos.

Many Catholic pro-life women have already donated umbilical cords, and illnesses have already been treated successfully by use of these stem cells (unlike what has happened with embryonic stem cells, which has created some horrific problems in the patients that received them).

Umbilical cord stem cells are already providing ethical and effective treatments for illnesses and Catholic women should not hesitate to donate the cord at the time of giving birth.

— Martha W. Shuping, M.D.  
Winston-Salem

### NFP is the way

Thank you so much for the recent story, "Planning Families the Natural Way" (July 11). As a constant defender among my Catholic friends and long-time user of natural family planning (NFP), I want to congratulate you on a great story on doctors Holland and Harrison, and on providing information on the misconceptions of artificial birth control.

NFP is a wonderful and effective tool for spacing children and definitely needs some great exposure to the Catholic population that believes artificial contraception is acceptable. Charlotte Catholics need to know that there are doctors in the area that are living out their faith and not providing contraception.

— Rebecca Foret  
Huntersville



## Light One Candle

MSGR. JIM LISANTE  
GUEST COLUMNIST

### Little moments with big meanings

I have come to the conclusion that you never can tell.

Now, you might not think it would be particularly difficult to reach this deduction. But, in fact, I believe most of us operate on the premise that we can pretty much tell what's going on and what's what. As judges of human nature, we certainly know if what we do or say really matters. After all, how can we not know the difference between what is insignificant and what is important?

Except, of course, we frequently don't know. We take it for granted that if a word or gesture is small to us, then other people feel the same. Yet, many times a simple pat on the back or "thank you" or a smile make your day. On the other hand, a burst of impatience, anger or meanness from a loved one or a stranger can sour your disposition for hours.

So I thought I'd pass along a few of the many stories I've heard over the years that illustrate how a little thing isn't so little after all; how some event should have been totally inconsequential, but turned out to be life-changing.

— A volunteer mentor who helped troubled kids got a visit from a young man he had not seen in five years. The visitor reminded the man that he had helped

him find a job: "You phoned the department store and you said you had a 'gentleman' in your office looking for a job. Frankly, I thought you were kidding. Me — a gentleman? Nobody ever called me that before. I was always called a 'bum' or 'hey, you!' Anyway, it made me feel good! That day I vowed I'd try to become a gentleman."

— A 19-year-old had recently lost several people who were close to him, including his father and his best friend. One day, when he was feeling deeply despondent, he went to Mass, but sat off to the side and barely participated. He recalls that at the sign of peace when people traditionally acknowledge each other with a handshake or embrace, "Two elderly women hobbled over to my solitary corner on fragile legs. Their journey seemed to take forever, and yet their greeting was warm and caring. In the time it took them to arrive, I made the decision to rejoin the living."

— A woman with several children, including a new baby, felt both overwhelmed and discouraged until she got a note from another young mother which said: "Hi, friend ... Just wanted to tell you that I think of you often. Someday we'll have time to spend together like in the old days. ... Keep plugging, I know you're a super mother." The recipient was so heartened that she started sending friendly notes to neighbors, teachers, store clerks — anyone who could use a good word.

I came across a quote from British writer E. V. Lucas who put it this way: "One of the most serious thoughts that life provokes is the reflection that we can never tell, at the time, whether a word, a look, an occurrence of any kind, is trivial or important."

Since we can't always tell, the thing to do is make each of our basic, humdrum everyday interactions with people as worthwhile as possible. It could do some good for the other guy; it surely will for us.

*For a free copy of the Christopher News Note, "Works of Mercy, Gifts of Love," write: The Christophers, 12 East 48th Street, New York, N.Y. 10017.*

### What about communion after a civil marriage ends in divorce?

*Q. Our daughter became pregnant when she was 17. She and her boyfriend wanted to get married quickly, but our parish priest, learning she was expecting, said he wanted to talk with her.*

*He told her because she was young they could marry before a judge if they wished to give the baby a name; if the marriage lasted they could be married in the church later.*

*As he predicted, their union lasted a short time. The pastor told her she could not receive Communion while living in sin. She left the church for several years but returned about two years ago.*

*She still doesn't feel she should go to Communion because of what she was told nearly 25 years ago. Please help her. (Michigan)*

A. Many readers of this question will be confused as I was about, among other things, a seemingly good bit of misinformation. However, the situation in which you and your daughter find yourselves is shared by a huge number of Catholics with a history of problem marriages and subsequent uncertainty about their status in the church. For many of them I have a suggestion at the end of this response.

At very least it appears that some serious misunderstandings took place along the way. For example, it is true that priests occasionally give the advice your pastor gave to your daughter. In the almost inevitable tensions and pressures accompanying a young unmarried pregnancy, it is often evident that the couple simply cannot properly and maturely discern their readiness for marriage or give appropriate attention and time to the preparation.

The desire to give the child a name or to resolve the social strains on an expectant unwed mother is clearly not a reason to get married. When other avenues, such as waiting until after the birth when at least the pressures of pregnancy are absent, are rejected, the priest may have good pastoral reason for his comment.

One confusion arises from your statement about not

## Question Corner

FATHER JOHN DIETZEN  
CNS COLUMNIST



receiving Communion. You seem to indicate that, even after your daughter's civil divorce from her husband, when they stopped living together, she did not feel permitted to receive Communion. Though many Catholics in situations similar to hers share her hesitancy, from what you have told me nothing prohibits her reception of the sacraments of penance and Eucharist.

Two points need to be made here about your daughter and others like her. First, many such cases arise from highly charged family events — unmarried pregnancies; marriage plans complicated by parents, pastors or other church officials; personal crises with Catholic schools; etc. — that cause involved individuals to badly misinterpret everything they hear from family members or others.

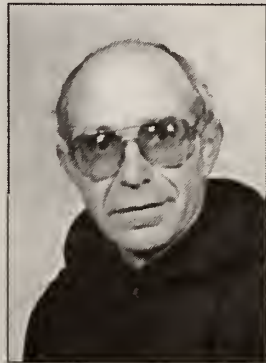
Thus, just plain misunderstandings often cause alienations that are unnecessary but which unfortunately continue for decades.

The second suggestion for those whose problems go back years, if not decades, is to talk again with a priest in whom one has confidence and ask his advice and assistance. Sometimes a different person's perspective, or perhaps a change in some procedure, can put a different light on the problem and point the way to a solution.

Please ask your daughter to do that if she has not already done so. She has been away from the sacraments too long.

## Guest Column

FATHER JOHN  
AURILIA,  
OFM CAP  
GUEST COLUMNIST



### Cemetery or columbarium?

While familiar with the cemetery, some Catholics still ask, "What's a columbarium?" This Latin word literally means "a nesting box for pigeons." Because of the similarity of the cubicle size, that word in the Christian tradition has become a sepulchral vault or other structure with recesses in the walls to receive the ashes of the dead.

The Cremation Document (July 30, 1997) gives a clear idea on the Catholic prospective of our choice: cemetery or columbarium. Historically, the disposition of bodies of deceased Catholics by means of cremation is a fairly recent issue. Canon 1203 of the 1917 Code of Canon Law forbade the practice, and this prohibition continued until 1963.

The instruction "Piam et Constantem" (May 8, 1963) urged "the practice of burying the bodies of the faithful is by all means to be kept, but allowance was made for cremation in cases of necessity as long as it was not chosen as a sign of denial of Christian teaching, especially that of the resurrection of the dead and the immortality of the soul."

This 1963 concession is provided in the 1969 Ordo Exsequiarum, the Latin edition of the revised Catholic Funeral Ritual. It was later incorporated into the 1983 Code of Canon Law: "The Church earnestly recommends that the pious custom of burying the bodies of the dead be observed; it does not, however, forbid cremation unless it has been chosen for reasons which are contrary to Christian teaching." (Canon 1176)

Two points should be clear in the development of the theology of cremation:

1) **Importance of the body.** Baptism and death mark the beginning and end of our spiritual journey on earth. The church has great reverence and respect for the human body, because it "has been washed by the water of baptism, anointed with the oil of salvation, and fed with the Bread of Life. ... the body is the temple of the Holy Spirit and is destined for future glory at the resurrection of the dead." (Cremation Document, p. 1)

2) **Cremation.** Cremated remains should be treated with the same respect given to body from which they came. This includes the use of a worthy vessel to contain the ashes, the manner in which they are carried, the care and attention to appropriate placement and transport, and the final disposition. The cremated remains should be buried in a grave or entombed in a mausoleum or columbarium. Scattering cremated remains on the sea, from the air or on the ground, or keeping them in the home of a relative or friend of the deceased are not the reverent disposition the church requires.

Whenever possible, appropriate means for recording with dignity the memory of the deceased should be adopted, such as a plaque or stone which records the name of the deceased. (Cremation Document, p. 2).

*Father Aurilia is the pastor of Immaculate Conception in Hendersonville.*



## 'BRAVEHEART' SUPRISSES BISHOPS



CNS PHOTO BY MARY KNIGHT

Actor-director Mel Gibson chats with Janet Kistler, an employee of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops in Washington, as he leaves the bishops' headquarters July 21.

## Mel Gibson visits U.S. bishops' building

By MARK PATTISON  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — Actor-director Mel Gibson paid a visit to the U.S. bishops' headquarters building in Washington July 21, a month after the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and Gibson's Icon Productions were involved in a spat over Gibson's new movie, "The Passion."

Gibson, a Catholic, met with Msgr. William P. Fay, USCCB general secretary. "It was a surprise visit," said Msgr. Fay, who had been notified of Gibson's arrival about an hour before it happened.

Msgr. Fay added there was no bad blood between the USCCB and Gibson. "He wanted the visit to make clear that there was not" any animosity, he said.

The dispute centered on the use of what Icon Productions said were unauthorized copies of a draft script used by a group of Catholic and Jewish scholars to critique the screenplay.

After the meeting was over, Gibson

signed autographs for employees outside USCCB headquarters.

When signing an autograph for Janet Kistler, who works in the bishops' Secretariat for Pro-Life Activities, Gibson said, "You're from Pro-Life? I've done my bit." Gibson is the father of seven children.

Gibson was in Washington to oversee a screening of "The Passion." The film, whose dialogue is entirely in Latin and Aramaic with no subtitles, has yet to find a distributor.

The same day as Gibson's visit, William Donohue of the Catholic League for Religious and Civil Rights blasted an essay written by Paula Fredriksen in *The New Republic* magazine over the controversy surrounding "The Passion."

Calling Fredriksen "a demagogue," Donohue said in a statement, "Working with an unauthorized script of 'The Passion,' Paula Fredriksen has declared the movie to be anti-Semitic. ... She has libeled Mel Gibson."

## German organizers of 2005 World Youth Day open new Web site

By MICHAEL LAWTON  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

COLOGNE, Germany — The organizers of World Youth Day 2005 have opened a new Web site with a preliminary schedule of events.

World Youth Day is scheduled for Aug. 16-21, 2005, in Cologne, according to the Web site, [www.wyd2005.org](http://www.wyd2005.org). The theme is, "We have come to worship him."

The Web site is currently available in German and Italian. An English site will be available later in the summer, according to a spokeswoman for organizers in Cologne.

Highlights of the event will include papal Masses on Aug. 18 and Aug. 21, 2005, and a vigil led by the pope on Aug. 20. The Days in the Diocese preceding World Youth Day will be held Aug. 11-15, 2005.

World Youth Day was instituted by Pope John Paul II in 1984 as a way for the church to galvanize youth. World Youth Day is held in dioceses every year, with the international celebration held every two or three years.

According to the Web site, registration will begin in summer 2004, by which time information concerning registration fees and accommodations will be available. But the site recommends that potential pilgrims begin checking with their parishes and dioceses about organizing a group trip.

The organizers said a special fund will be set up to assist those who otherwise could not afford the trip.

An effort will be made to pair young people with host German families, but most will sleep in school halls and other temporary dormitories, organizers said.

## USCCB releases video on Catholic social teaching

By CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — The central question in a new 28-minute video released by the U.S. bishops is "How does God call you to make a difference in the world?"

"In the Footsteps of Jesus: Catholic Social Teaching at Work Today," released this summer by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, is a two-part video that can be used to introduce Catholic social teaching in a wide variety of contexts and time frames, according to an announcement.

Part one provides an overview of the seven themes of Catholic social teaching and a brief scriptural and historical context for its development. Part two highlights the themes by focusing on the lives of six individuals and a couple who discuss their own commitments to promoting justice and peace.

The video can be used as a resource

for sacramental preparation, small study groups, and youth and adult religious education. It also includes a study guide.

The video was developed in cooperation with the Catholic Campaign for Human Development, the USCCB Department of Social Development and World Peace, Catholic Relief Services, Catholic Charities USA and the National Council of Catholic Women.

Key themes of Catholic social teaching include: the life and dignity of the human person; a call to family, community and participation; rights and responsibilities; option for the poor and vulnerable; the dignity of work and the rights of workers; solidarity and care for God's creation.

"In the Footsteps of Jesus" can be ordered by calling USCCB Publishing at: (800) 235-8722. The publication number is 5-444. The cost is \$14.95; for "resource members," the cost is \$8.97.

## Classifieds

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uled Masses, weddings and funerals and directing the choirs. The parish recently installed a Marshall Brothers pipe organ built in 1870, containing 1,316 pipes and 23 ranks. The organ was completely rebuilt in 1995 and installed in Holy Redeemer in 2001. Knowledge of Spanish and Spanish liturgical music is helpful. Please send resumes to the Music Ministry Search Committee, P. O. Box 510, Kitty Hawk, NC 27949.

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**TEACHERS:** Immaculate Heart of Mary School has an opening for a three-quarter time middle school language arts teacher and a full-time middle school science/math teacher. Must be North Carolina certified. Please fax resume and cover letter to (336) 884-1849 or e-mail to [nachter@ihmchurch.org](mailto:nachter@ihmchurch.org) or mail directly to Immaculate Heart of Mary School, 605 Barbee Avenue, High Point, NC 27262, Attn: Principal.

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# Abbey names new vice president

*Pennsylvania native to lead fundraising efforts at BAC*

BELMONT — Belmont Abbey College has named J. Michael Pressimone as vice president for Institutional Advancement.

Pressimone, who served as vice president for institutional advancement at Elizabethtown College in Elizabethtown, Penn., will replace Dr. John Marshall, who had retired at the end of last year after serving the Abbey for over 11 years.

"We look forward to working with Mike and having him at the helm of institutional advancement at the college," says Abbot Placid Solari, Belmont Abbey College president. "His experience and success as a college development officer, and his enthusiastic commitment to Catholic higher education will be invaluable to the Abbey and its future."

The vice president for institutional advancement, one of two vice presidents at the college, directs Belmont Abbey College's relations with the philanthropic and volunteer communities, including prominent individual supporters, charitable foundations, corporate donors, alumni and public relations.

Pressimone said he is honored to be named to the position.

"I was immediately attracted to Belmont Abbey College and was



J. Michael Pressimone

proud to be called to serve as its vice president," says Pressimone. "The college has a rich history of academic success, commitment to its Catholic and Benedictine heritage and athletic prowess. The people of Belmont Abbey are dedicated to serving its students and being a good neighbor. I look forward to serving them and the entire Abbey community."

Pressimone is a graduate of The Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. where he earned a bachelor's degree in fine arts. He looks forward to being an active member of the community in North Carolina.

# Charlotte man takes steps toward priesthood

CHARLOTTE — Tri Vinh Truong of Charlotte was one of four candidates for the priesthood who took their first temporary oath to the Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers in ceremonies at Our Lady Queen of Apostles Chapel in Ossining, N.Y., May 30.

The oath marked the completion of their spiritual formation year. The four candidates will enter Catholic Theological Union in Chicago, Ill., this September to pursue their master of divinity degrees before beginning Maryknoll's overseas training program.

Truong, 29, was born in Vinh Long, Vietnam, where he completed high school in 1992. He graduated magna cum laude from St. Xavier University in Chicago, Ill., earning a bachelor's degree in philosophy and religious studies in 2002.

Prior to entering Maryknoll in 1998, Truong taught confirmation classes at St. Joseph Vietnamese Church in Charlotte.

"Sharing my Catholic faith with other people has always been my dream, but in Vietnam I did not have the opportunity to pursue it," said Truong. "When I came to the United States eight years ago, I saw that I would be able to fulfill my dream and that drew me to study for the mission priesthood."

# Glenmary Home Missioner to speak in Asheville parish

ASHEVILLE — Glenmary Father Rollie Hautz will speak at Basilica of St. Lawrence in Asheville during Masses Aug. 2-3. He will share information about Glenmary Home Missioners and their ministry in Appalachia, the South and Southwest.

Father Hautz has served in Glenmary missions in Georgia, Virginia, North Carolina, West Virginia and Ohio.

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# Sister sisters

*Witty twin nuns love church, their call to service*

By BRETT McLAUGHLIN  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

SAGINAW, Mich. — When the time comes, St. Peter will probably do what every one else does when meeting the Epple twins — blink a couple of times and take a stab at which one is which.

They look alike, they sound alike and, given the right audience, they even act alike.

The Epples have been Sisters of Mercy since they took their first vows in 1963. They love the church and their call to service. Each acknowledges the support of the other as a sister by both blood and faith.

Sister Mary Epple is a pastoral associate at St. Mary Parish in Bay City, which is in the Saginaw Diocese. She assists Father James Heller with parish activities and programs.

Sister Rita Epple is a pastoral administrator at St. Dominic Parish in Metz, in the Gaylord Diocese. She has responsibility for all aspects of parish life. In the absence of a full-time priest in the parish, her role includes many pastoral functions.

Living and working in different dioceses, they don't see each other often. They also don't talk shop much; exchanging occasional e-mails and phone calls. "We take ideas from each other, but it (the church work) is not our whole conversation," Sister Mary explained in an interview with The Catholic Weekly, serving the Saginaw and Gaylord dioceses.

Although their service to God has taken them in different directions, they have never been separated. "The hearts are close," Sister Rita said.

The middle pair of four girls in the Epple family, Sister Mary and Sister Rita agreed there was never any doubt they would enter religious life. They grew up playing "nun," tying bath towels around their heads as veils and using Necco candy as "communion" wafers.

"I think our real sisters (older sister Ann and younger sister Jane) were relieved (we became nuns)," Sister Mary said. "It took the pressure off them."

They attended Catholic grade school and high school in the Diocese of Saginaw. Sister Mary said their high school experiences were beneficial to their development. "We had good social lives. We dated and went to the prom."

"We kissed good night," Sister Rita whispered with an impish grin.

"She said that," Sister Mary interjected.



CNS PHOTO BY BRETT McLAUGHLIN, CATHOLIC WEEKLY

In their trademark, quick-witted fashion, the sisters recalled how the final decision in their discernment process was announced to the school.

"One of the boys announced it at an altar boys' meeting," Sister Rita said.

"Just before the prom," her sister added.

"That kind of took the edge off that," Sister Rita added with a grin.

With the support and encouragement of their classmates, the twins joined four other girls from their class in pursuing religious life. (Father Heller, coincidentally, went to the seminary from the same class.)

At Detroit Mercy College, the sisters had little time to spend together. And such camaraderie was not encouraged. "Convent life was very structured," Sister Mary said.

The structure and discipline of the convent took a toll on many — only 10 of the original 31 took final vows — but the Epples endured. "We wanted the religious life and we did what we had to do," Sister Rita said. "We didn't question the system."

The Epples believe that each person must have a conversion experience to enter into religious life. For Sister Rita, she heard the still, small voice of God telling her who he was. For Sister Mary, that moment came several years into her service to the church.

Both nuns have tremendous respect for the Catholic laity. "The laity has so many more decisions to face and difficulties to endure," Sister Mary said. "Even when it comes to marriage," she added.

"Once married people make that commitment, what options do they have? With us, we could change our minds before we made our first vows, again before our final vows," Sister Mary said.

Mercy Sisters Mary and Rita Epple are identical twins and nuns from the Dioceses of Saginaw and Gaylord in Michigan. Sister Mary is pastoral associate at St. Mary Church in Bay City, and Sister Rita is pastoral administrator at St. Dominic Church in Metz.

"We really have very few worries, We don't have to worry about how we will be taken care of when we grow older."

"We have taken an oath of poverty, but the laity has so many other limits," Sister Rita added.

Although people do see the nuns as individuals, there are accidental mix-ups. Sister Mary reminded her sister of a time at Sister Rita's parish festival. "When that lady came up to me and said there was no paper towels in the men's room," she said. Sister Mary told the woman that she would have to tell Sister Rita. "Her men's room wasn't my problem."

The 10 nuns who graduated together hold reunions each year and plan to retire together. "We have to. There are very few to push our wheelchairs," Sister Rita said, noting that there are less than 50 Sisters of Mercy younger than themselves.

The sisters fear each other's death the most. "Someone asked me once if I would be buried next to my sister," Sister Mary said. "I told them, 'Only if I'm dead.'"

## Sister Serena Branson, national Catholic Charities leader, dies at 90

LOUDONVILLE, N.Y. (CNS) — A funeral Mass was celebrated July 12 at St. Pius X Church in Loudonville for Sister Serena Branson, a Daughter of Charity who was a leader in Catholic Charities in the Albany Diocese and nationwide.

Bishop Howard J. Hubbard of Albany called Sister Serena, who died July 8 at the age of 90, "a pioneer in child care" who had "an incredible sense of vision about how to fulfill the social justice and social service dimension of the church's life."

Believed to be the first woman to head a diocesan Catholic Charities agency, Sister Serena received the 2002 Vision Award from Catholic Charities USA for her leadership and lifelong commitment to serving those in need.

A native of Washington, Sister Serena entered the Daughters of Charity in Emmitsburg, Md., in 1931 and worked as a teacher at several places. She then earned a master's degree in social work from The Catholic University of America in Washington in 1949.

In 1974, Sister Serena was appointed executive director of Catholic Charities in the Albany Diocese. Under her leadership, Catholic Charities expanded its presence from three to all 14 counties of the diocese, linked with the public sector to improve the lot of the needy, and joined with state and national lawmakers to formulate social service policies.

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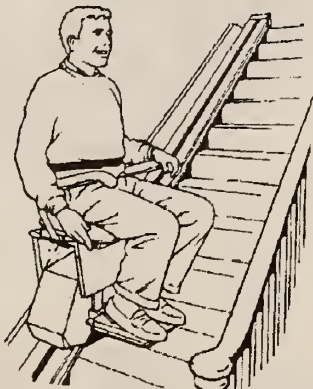
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Ephesians 5:1-2

# The Catholic

## NEWS & HERALD

**NEXT ISSUE:**  
Look for expanded  
back-to-school  
coverage

AUGUST 8, 2003

SERVING CATHOLICS IN WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA IN THE DIOCESE OF CHARLOTTE

VOLUME 12 No 40

### ACCESSING FAITH



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

Father Conrad Hoover sits in front of his office computer at St. Ann Church in Charlotte.

## Internet connects Catholics to parish, world

By KAREN A. EVANS  
STAFF WRITER

CHARLOTTE — As more people join the ranks of Internet users, Catholics are finding they can use their personal computers for more than checking e-mail and playing solitaire.

"It's a magnificent resource for everybody," said

Father Conrad Hoover, pastor of St. Ann Church in Charlotte. "Certainly it is for religion in general and for Catholics."

Father Hoover is known to many of his parishioners and friends as a "cyber-priest" for his knowledge and use of the

See INTERNET, page 9

## YESS means saying no

*Catholic Social Services program offers values to youth*

By COURTNEY GAILLARD  
SPECIAL TO

THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD  
WINSTON-SALEM —

Isaiah Smith, Kelvin McCaskill and Javielle Chamberlain were among more than 40 kids who pledged to remain abstinent before marriage. The pre-teens are participants in Youth Empowerment Support Services (YESS), which held a graduation July 15 for its Prevention Program at the

Anderson Center on the campus of Winston-Salem State University.

YESS, a Catholic Social Services program, promotes sexual abstinence to preteen boys through The Code, to preteen girls through Sisters and to first-time teen parents through Hand to Hand. Equipped with the ideals of chastity, respect, morality,

See YESS, page 8

## Father Jugis to shepherd flock

### *Charlotte native appointed bishop of diocese*

By KEVIN E. MURRAY  
EDITOR

CHARLOTTE — Father Peter Joseph Jugis has been named the fourth bishop of the Diocese of Charlotte by Pope John Paul II.

Archbishop Gabriel Montalvo, apostolic nuncio to the United States, announced the appointment in Washington Aug. 1.

Msgr. Mauricio W. West, administrator of the Diocese of Charlotte, made the announcement to the media and Pastoral Center administrative staff the same day.

"I have accepted our Holy Father's appointment of me as bishop of Charlotte, and I am very humbled by the confidence he has placed in me," said Father Jugis, following Msgr. West's remarks.

Father Jugis, 46, succeeds Bishop William G. Curlin, who retired in September 2002. Church canon law requires bishops to turn in their resignations when they reach 75. Bishop Curlin, bishop of Charlotte since 1994, turned 75 on Aug. 30, 2002.

"I pray I will be a worthy successor to Bishop Curlin, and serve with just as much zeal for souls as he, and Archbishop John F. Donoghue, our second bishop, and Bishop Michael J. Begley, our founding bishop, did in their years as shepherd," said Father Jugis.

Bishop Begley baptized Father Jugis in March 1957 at St. Ann Church, one of two Charlotte churches Father Jugis' parents helped start (the other was St. Vincent de Paul).

Ordained June 12, 1983 by Pope John Paul II in St.

Peter's Basilica in Rome, Father Jugis is currently judicial vicar and pastor of Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church in Monroe. The 700-family parish is half Hispanic; Father Jugis is fluent in Spanish.

A native of Charlotte, Father Jugis was born March 3, 1957. He graduated South Mecklenburg High School in 1975 and the University of North Carolina at Charlotte in 1979 with a bachelor's degree in business administration.

He prepared for the priesthood at the North American College, the U.S. seminary in Rome.

After his ordination, Fa-

ther Jugis was briefly in residence at St. Ann Church before returning to Rome to complete his licentiate in canon law.

In 1984, he was appointed parochial vicar of St. Leo the Great Catholic Church in Winston-Salem while serving as temporary administrator of Holy Infant Catholic Church in Reidsville in the summer of 1985. In November 1985, he was appointed as a tribunal judge and parochial vicar of St. John Neumann Catholic Church in Charlotte.

In August 1987, Father

See FATHER JUGIS, page 8



PHOTO BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

Father Peter Jugis, pastor of Our Lady of Lourdes Church in Charlotte and judicial vicar, was named the next bishop of the Diocese of Charlotte by Pope John Paul II Aug. 1. Father Jugis is pictured next to a painting of the diocese's first bishop, Michael J. Begley, who baptized Bishop-designate Jugis as an infant in 1957.

Vatican: Publishing Saddam's sons' photos violates international law Attacks on U.S. troops isolated, priest says

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Remembering a legend  
Entertaining Bob Hope died  
a Catholic, cardinal says

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## Children act out skit at West Bank summer camp



CNS PHOTO BY DEBBIE HILL

Ahmed Salem, 13, acts out the death of a man in a skit at the Children of the Land Summer Camp July 21 in El Khader in the West Bank. The camp, which teaches children coping and survival skills, was coordinated by Catholic Relief Services with funding from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. It was the first part of a yearlong project to help protect children from harm.

### Keeping Sunday for prayer helps witness to resurrection, pope says

CASTEL GANDOLFO, Italy (CNS) — By making Sunday a special day of prayer and rest, Christians give weekly witness to Christ's victory over sin and death, Pope John Paul II said. Sunday, the day commemorating Christ's resurrection, "is the symbol par excellence for that which Christianity has and continues to represent in Europe and in the world," the pope said Aug. 3. Reciting the midday Angelus with visitors at his summer villa outside of Rome, the

pope said observing Sunday as a day of prayer and rest is "a perennial proclamation of the good news of the resurrection of Jesus, the celebration of his victory over sin and death and his commitment to the full liberation of each man and woman."

### More interest in spirituality-healing link, but more obstacles too

WASHINGTON (CNS) — As federal legislation designed to ensure patient privacy makes it harder for some clergy to provide spiritual solace to those who are sick or dying, interest in the relationship between

spirituality and healing continues to grow. A Time cover story on meditation, a new postdoctoral program in spirituality and health, and new research on how spiritual interventions can affect everything from cancer and cardiovascular disease to obesity and irritable bowel syndrome all attest to the widening impact of the field. But the implementation this spring of regulations governing "protected health information" under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, also known as HIPAA, has translated into obstacles for some hospital chaplains.

### 'Mystery' priest who thwarted N.J. woman's abduction comes forward

CLIFTON, N.J. (CNS) — Clifton police now know the identity of the "mystery" priest who saved a 20-year-old woman from being abducted July 7 by a man whose offer of a ride she had rejected as she walked along Route 3 East in Clifton. Police said he is a priest of the Newark Archdiocese who serves in a parish in Essex County, but at his request his name was not released. According to police, the clerical good Samaritan came to headquarters and identified himself after reading in newspaper accounts of the event that he could be an important witness in efforts to track down the assailant and would-be abductor. The priest — whom she described as being a heavy-set, white-haired white man in his 60s who wore glasses and was driving a gold car — calmed her down, drove her to her job and left without giving his name or where he was from. "I only did what I thought I should do," police said the priest told them when he came forward but asked not to be publicly identified.

### Researchers' study reconfirms existence of St. Juan Diego

MEXICO CITY (CNS) — A year after Pope John Paul II canonized America's first indigenous saint, researchers released a new study reconfirming the existence of Juan Diego Cuauhtlatotzin. The investigation was made public by Mexico's Na-

tional Library of Anthropology and History July 31, the same day several thousand Catholics descended on Mexico City's Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe to celebrate the anniversary of the canonization. The report analyzes recently uncovered evidence, including several letters and a document that researchers claim is St. Juan Diego's will. "The evidence supports the historical case that this character existed," the report's main investigator, Asuncion Garcia Samper, said in a press statement. The study differs from previous accounts in claiming St. Juan Diego was not a poor peasant but part of an Indian nobility and was related to a wealthy landowner named Netzahualpilli.



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## Diocesan planner

### Upcoming Parish Events August

**9 TRYON** — Glenmary Father Rollie Hautz will speak at St. John the Baptist Church, 180 Laurel Ave., during Masses Aug. 9-10. He will share information about Glenmary Home Missioners and their ministry in Appalachia, the South and Southwest. For Mass times, please call the church office at (828) 859-9574.

**10 WINSTON-SALEM** — The Fraternity of St. Clare will celebrate the Rite of Permanent Profession to the Secular Franciscan Order at 9 a.m. Mass in Our Lady of Fatima Chapel, 211 West Third St. The Secular Franciscan Order was founded by St. Francis of Assisi in the 13th century to bring to the church a new and profound understanding of what it means to "live the gospel." For details, please contact Sharon Jackson,

SFO, at (336) 722-7001 or mercy@triad.rr.com.

**11 FRANKLIN** — The Women's Guild of St. Francis of Assisi Church, 299 Maple St., will be having their monthly meeting at 7 p.m. in the Family Life Center. The meetings feature guest speakers and special events periodically. For more information, call Claire Barnable at (828) 369-1565.

**12 GREENSBORO** — The last "Theology on Tap" session is tonight at Anton's on Battleground Ave. at 7 p.m. For details: greensborotot@yahoo.com.

**13 CHARLOTTE** — The 50+ Club of St. John Neumann Church, 8451 Idlewild Rd., will meet at 11 a.m. with a program and lunch in the parish center. Donations are accepted during the meeting. For more information, call Lucille Kroboth at (704) 537-2189.

**13 CHARLOTTE** — The "Faithful Friends Tour" with national recording artists Tony Melendez, Steve Angrisano and the Toe Jam Band will be in concert at 8 p.m. at St. Matthew Church, 8015

Ballantyne Commons Pkwy. For ticket information, call St. Matthew parish office (704) 543-7677 or (800) 332-0763. Sponsored by St. Matthew's Youth Ministry and Good News Ministries of N.C.

**14 STATESVILLE** — St. Philip the Apostle Seniors Club committee of chairmen and co-chairmen will meet at 11:30 a.m. at Wise Guys Restaurant. It will be a dutch treat lunch and spouses are included. For more information, call Connie at (704) 876-6404.

**15 CHARLOTTE** — Thank God It's Friday (TGIF), a weekly support group for separated and divorced women, meets tonight at 7 p.m. in the St. Matthew Church parish center, 8015 Ballantyne Pkwy., with its monthly potluck dinner and a guest speaker from the community. TGIF is a healing ministry sponsored by Catholic Social Services, Charlotte Regional Office and St. Matthew Church. For details, call Trish Wilson at (704) 543-8986.

**15 CHARLOTTE** — St. Luke Church, 13700 Lawyers Rd., will host a supper 6-9



### National Review Board assesses its first year, finds some jobs undone

CHICAGO (CNS) — The work of the National Review Board established by the U.S. bishops last year "has proceeded uninterrupted and with continued vigor and independence" despite the resignation of its first chairman, the board said in an evaluation of its first year. In the eight-page report, released at a July 29 news conference in Chicago, the board thanked former Oklahoma Gov. Frank Keating, who resigned in June as board chairman, for "the leadership lent in the early stages of our formation." But the report made no reference to the controversy that led to the resignation of Keating, who had characterized some bishops as being as secretive as a crime family in their handling of allegations of child sexual abuse by priests. Most of the report updated the status of six major goals set for the National Review Board when it was established by the U.S. bishops last June. "We know that much of our agenda has yet to be accomplished," the report said. "But we believe that for real change our prescriptions must go to the root of the troubles if their effects are to be lasting."

### Petitions in three states prompted by bishops' handling of abuse

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Groups in three states were running petition drives aimed at forcing Catholic bishops to resign because of their role in the handling of allegations of sexual abuse by priests. Within days of the July 23 release of a report by the Massachusetts attorney general on clergy sexual abuse in the Archdiocese of Boston, organizations in Long Island, N.Y., and Manchester, N.H., announced petition drives aimed at forcing the resignations of three bishops who had a role in handling abuse cases during previous assignments. Targeted were Bishop William F. Murphy of Rockville Centre, N.Y., and Bishop John B. McCormack and Auxiliary Bishop

Francis J. Christian, both of Manchester. Meanwhile, a separate, similar effort in the Diocese of Dallas has led to signatures being collected on a counterpetition in support of Bishop Charles V. Grahmann.

### Maryknoll documentary on AIDS worldwide wins award

MARYKNOLL, N.Y. (CNS) — Maryknoll Productions has won the Cine Golden Eagle award for "excellent filmmaking craftsmanship" for a documentary which puts a human face on the worldwide AIDS epidemic. The winning entry, "Coming to Say Goodbye: Stories of AIDS in Africa," was produced by John Ankele and Anne Macksoud, who have been awarded three previous Cine Golden Eagle awards for Maryknoll Productions. The prize will be awarded next year in Washington at the 45th annual awards ceremony for Cine, one of the nation's oldest film and video organizations.

### Racism still plagues nation, says head of black sisters' conference

MIAMI (CNS) — Thirty-five years after the Rev. Martin Luther King's assassination, racism still plagues the nation and exists in many parishes and church institutions, said the president of the National Black Sisters Conference during the organization's annual meeting July 27-29 in Miami. Sister Anita Baird, a Daughter of the Heart of Mary who is the conference's president, said Rev. King's famous dream speech is still just a dream and that racism and the suffering imposed on minorities continues. In an interview with The Florida Catholic, archdiocesan newspaper of Miami, she said that in 1968 many in the church did not even know there were black religious or black priests. When the National Black Sisters Conference first met, she said, 300 black women religious all in habits assembled to affirm who they were as women serving in predominantly white communities and to "support each other in the challenge of being the prophetic voice for justice for black people in America."

## Cyclists end cross-country poverty education tour in Washington



CNS PHOTO BY NANCY WIECHEC

Cyclists in the "Brake the Cycle of Poverty" tour roll into the nation's capital ending their more than 3,800-mile trek across the country Aug. 1. Leading the pack from left are Jennifer Seibly of San Francisco, Rob Marco of Doylestown, Pa., and seminarian Jose Ramirez of Miami, Fla. The cyclists, sponsored by the Catholic Campaign for Human Development, made more than 50 stops providing information to communities about how poverty affects Americans.

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p.m. in the Family Life Center. Admission is one non-perishable food item per person. Terri Jarina, parish social ministry director and diocesan coordinator for Catholic Relief Services/Operation Rice Bowl, will present photos and information about her tour with CRS in May to Benin (West Africa) and discuss CRS operations. All are welcome. For more information, call Laura Laney at (704) 764-8169.

**16 CHARLOTTE**— Glenmary Father Rollie Hautz will speak at St. Gabriel Church, 3016 Providence Rd., during Masses Aug. 16-17. He will share information about Glenmary Home Missioners and their ministry in Appalachia, the South and Southwest. For Mass times, please call the church office at (704) 364-5431.

**18 CHARLOTTE** — Christians in Career Transition is a ministry of St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy., devoted to helping people in career crises. The meetings take place on the first and third Mondays of every month 7-9 p.m. in the conference room. For more

information, call Rev. Mr. Jim Hamrlik at (704) 576-0456.

**19 BOONE** — The Boone Vicariate Hispanic Catholic Ministry will host the Mobile Mexican Consulate today beginning at 8 a.m. in the Watagua High School gymnasium, 400 High School Dr. The Mexican Consul staff will offer Mexican identification documentation service to the Mexican population of Boone, Jefferson, Sparta, N. Wilkesboro, Spruce Pine and nearby areas. For information on specific documentation and requisites, please call Jaime Sevilla, vicariate coordinator, at (336) 927-4259.

**20 HUNTERSVILLE** — Natural Family Planning classes are held the third Wednesday of every month at 7 p.m. at St. Mark Catholic Church, 14740 Stumptown Rd., Room 200. Classes are taught by Dr. Matthew Harrison. All are welcome to attend, no registration required. Call (704) 948-0231 for directions and more information.

**24 HENDERSONVILLE** — The St. Francis of the Hills Fraternity of the Secu-

lar Franciscan Order will meet today 3-5 p.m. at Immaculate Conception Church, 208 7th Ave. West. Visitors and inquirers are welcome. For more information, call Helen Gillogly, SFO, at (828) 883-9645. **25 NEWTON** — The Little Flowers Catholic Girls' Group is for all Catholic girls ages five and up. The group meets the fourth Monday of each month at St. Joseph Church, 720 West 13th St., at 4 p.m. in the Holy Family Hall. For more details, call Debbie Vickers at (828) 495-2039.

**27 GUILFORD COUNTY** — The Ancient Order of Hibernians Guilford County Division, the oldest and largest order of Irish-Catholic men, is looking for more Irish-Catholic men to join them for meetings, educational seminars and social events. Contact Michael Slarie at (336) 665-9264 for time and location.

**27 SYLVA** — Tonight St. Mary Church will conclude its four-part series on praying the "Prayer of the Church," as it is prayed by priests and religious as well as a growing number of lay people around the

world. The session will follow the 5:30 p.m. Mass, 6-7 p.m. Session IV will be "Saints, Memorials and Optional Memorials" which will cover these celebrations and conclude the explanation of the annual guide. As materials must be prepared, please call the office (828) 586-9496 to preregister.

**30 SALISBURY** — School of Leaders will meet at Sacred Heart Church today 9-11:30 a.m., following the 8 a.m. Mass. There will also be a Secretariat meeting 1-2:30 p.m. For more information, call Dan Hines at (704) 544-6665 or visit [www.charlottecursillo.org](http://www.charlottecursillo.org). To receive Cursillo information via e-mail contact [bmayer@alltell.net](mailto:bmayer@alltell.net).

Please submit notices of parish events for the Diocesan Planner at least 15 days prior to the event date in writing to Karen A. Evans at [kaevans@charlottediocese.org](mailto:kaevans@charlottediocese.org) or fax to (704) 370-3382.



## Shoes set out for identification near mass grave in Iraq



CNS PHOTO FROM REUTERS

Shoes found in a mass grave are set out for identification in Al Mesayeb in central Iraq May 22. Relatives are attempting to identify the remains of family members whose bodies were exhumed from several mass graves. Local residents believe the graves contain the remains of hundreds of Shiite Muslims executed by the regime of Saddam Hussein after an uprising in 1991.

## Faith relations said good in Iraq, but attacks on Christians seen

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Apart from the general chaotic atmosphere caused by a lack of adequate police control, isolated attacks on Christians in Iraq have increased since the end of the U.S.-led war, an official from Freedom House said in a July 25 telephone interview. But religious relations in the country are generally good, said Paul Marshall, a senior fellow with the Center for Religious Freedom at Freedom House, a non-profit, nonpartisan organization based in Washington.

He reported that certain "radical Islamic groups," as he called them, are "imposing" violence "indirectly" on the Christian minority in the southern city of Basra and in parts of northern Iraq. In Basra, he said, at least two Christians have been killed

for selling alcohol and others have been terrorized. Alcohol, although legal under former President Saddam Hussein's rule, is not allowed under Islamic practice.

Throughout parts of the city, he saw "Muslim only" buses, he added. In northern Iraq, Marshall reported seeing "street vigilantes," mostly consisting of radical Muslim Shiite groups and followers of Wahhabi Islam, a narrow and puritanical version of Islam that is dominant in Saudi Arabia.

## Vatican: Publishing Saddam's sons' photos violates international law

By CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY — The United States disregarded international law when it published photographs of the dead bodies of the sons of Saddam Hussein, the Vatican newspaper said.

The headline over the short editorial comment July 25 in L'Osservatore Romano was, "Once again, the tragic face of war."

"Yesterday, without regard for that which is prescribed by international law regarding (the treatment of) the defeated, photos were released of the disfigured cadavers of Saddam Hussein's two sons, Uday and Qusay, who were killed Tuesday in Mosul during a raid by U.S. military," the Vatican newspaper said.

Meanwhile, an Iraqi priest said nearly daily killings of U.S. soldiers in his country were "isolated cases" that did not reflect a "general revolt" against the post-war occupation by American troops.

"There's a tendency to generalize, as if there was a resistance everywhere against the Americans," Msgr. Jacques Isaac, secretary general of the synod of Chaldean Catholic bishops, said in a July 24 Vatican Radio interview.

"But this seems to me an exaggeration, because a few isolated cases do not mean there's a general revolt. In (the Iraqi capital) Baghdad, I have seen American soldiers playing with children in the

street," said the priest, who was in Italy for a church conference.

More than 150 U.S. troops have been killed in Iraq since the war began in March; more than 40 have been killed since U.S. President George W. Bush declared that the war was over.

Msgr. Isaac, who is also the rector of Baghdad's church-run Babel College, also said he thought most Iraqis realized they were not yet ready to govern themselves.

"It seems to me that everybody is convinced that this is not the moment for the Americans to leave the country," he said.

He downplayed the long-term significance of the July 22 killing of Saddam's sons during a U.S. military attack, saying it "doesn't change absolutely anything."

He said more important for peace in Iraq were the country's long-held values, which he said had been tested successfully since the collapse of the government.

"Now in Iraq, the coexistence among all the religions present is truly a reality. And the absence of a government is showing that there aren't wars of religion between Sunnis and Shiites, Christians and Muslims," Msgr. Isaac said, adding that Iraqis have "tendencies of coexistence" in their "life and blood."

Contributing to this story was Cindy Wooden.

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## FIGHTING FOR LIFE

# St. Barnabas group champions Respect Life issues

By DIANNE M.A. RIGGS  
CORRESPONDENT

ARDEN — Among the booths selling T-shirts, cotton candy and all the hoopla that goes with Asheville's Bele Chere street fair, was a "newcomer" — a Respect Life booth, complete with models of the developing fetus in utero.

The models attracted a lot of attention from young adults, pregnant women, teen boys and families with children.

"People are always interested," said Shelley Glanton, coordinator of the Respect Life Committee at St. Barnabas Church in Arden. "They say, 'I didn't know that they (fetuses) look like babies.' Well, they are babies!"

The idea for a Respect Life booth at Bele Chere came from a committee member who heard of a Planned Parenthood one last year. The committee wanted equal representation.

Respect for human life is a basic teaching of the Catholic Church. In the 2001 "Pastoral Plan for Pro-Life Activities: A Campaign in Support of Life," the U.S. bishops urged ongoing education of pro-life matters in the Catholic community.

"An ongoing, long-range and intensive educational effort in the Catholic community can provide an understanding of the issues and lead people to conviction and commitment," states the document. "Such efforts should utilize the best medical, sociological and legal information available. This should include the most recent advances in medi-

cal technology that demonstrate the continuity of human development from conception onwards.

"Ultimately, however, moral and theological arguments present the central issue of respect for human life in its most intellectually compelling terms."

"Father Roger Arnsparger pushed to get this committee as soon as he became pastor," said Victoria Sheppard-LaBrecque, M.D., former coordinator of the St. Barnabas Respect Life Committee. "Everything we have done, he has backed us 100 percent."

Father Arnsparger preaches regularly on Respect Life issues. Sheppard-LaBrecque said Rev. Mr. Arthur Kingsley, permanent deacon at the church, and his wife, Rosemary, are the "backbone" of the committee.

While the committee's history is a short three years, the investment and action of their growing membership is long-lived. Two members were among 50 women on the Supreme Court steps in January who spoke out about why they regretted having abortions; they are also very active in Rachael's Vineyard, a healing ministry for post-abortive women. According to Glanton, the committee hopes to take Rachael's Vineyard to women in prison.

One of the committee's innovative ministries is its Spiritual Adoption program, said Mark LaBrecque. It involves parishioners choosing a name and praying every night for an unknown, unborn baby at risk of being aborted.

"We pray that the parents will love



PHOTO BY DIANNE M.A. RIGGS

Respect Life Committee members at St. Barnabas Church in Arden watch as children examine models of a developing fetus. The models are available on loan to interested churches by the diocesan Respect Life Office in Charlotte.

it, keep it, nourish it and bring it up as a Christian," said LaBrecque.

But not all efforts are oriented towards abortion. Member Cornelia Scibetta is active in end-of-life issues, including euthanasia. According to Glanton, Scibetta has given talks about living wills, has arranged hospice speakers and wants a lawyer familiar with canon law to speak to parishioners about wills and end-of-life concerns.

Similar to the Respect Life Committee at St. Barnabas, the Respect Life group at St. Vincent de Paul Church in Charlotte has attracted members with diverse skills and abilities.

"Each member has their own niche," said Diane Hoefling, group member. "Research, prayer, speaking out, etc. We all work together. We have different gifts."

Mary Lou Powers, a member of the active Saint Gabriel Church's Respect Life committee in Charlotte said she thinks Pope John Paul II is the key person in the world speaking out for the

issues at stake.

"I don't feel there are enough writers who promote the Christian pro-life message," she said.

Because understanding the various Respect Life issues can be difficult, especially amid the secular reporting of the popular press, the U.S. bishops' Secretariat for Pro-Life Activities has developed educational material on a variety of pro-life issues, including abortion, capital punishment, cloning, embryo research, natural family planning and euthanasia.

Contact Correspondent Dianne M.A. Riggs at (828) 299-4411 or e-mail [mountainquixote@aol.com](mailto:mountainquixote@aol.com).

## RESPECTING LIFE



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

## Pro-life leaders visit Charlotte

Cardinal Anthony Bevilacqua stands with Gail Quinn, executive director of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops Pro-Life Secretariat. Cardinal Bevilacqua is the chairman of the USCCB Pro-Life Committee.

Cardinal Bevilacqua and Quinn were in Charlotte July 31-Aug. 2 for the annual conference of diocesan pro-life directors.

"We should all be concerned with human life issues because we were created by God," said the cardinal. "From this basic truth everything else in the world evolves."

"Above all else, the value of human life is crucial," he said. "If we don't respect life, we may someday be a victim of that disrespect, for instance in the case of euthanasia."

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NEWS & HERALD



# Entertainer Bob Hope died a Catholic, cardinal says

By CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

LOS ANGELES — Entertainer Bob Hope died a Catholic, according to Cardinal Roger M. Mahony of Los Angeles.

"One of my greatest joys is knowing that Bob Hope died as a Catholic," Cardinal Mahony said in a July 28 statement.

"Over the years I would invite him to join the church, but he would respond in his typical humor, 'My wife, Dolores, does enough praying to take care of both of us.' But eventually her prayers prevailed and he was baptized into the Catholic Church and was strengthened these past years through the regular reception of holy Communion."

Hope was 100 when he died July 27 at his home in Toluca Lake outside Los Angeles.

Although he became a Catholic after retiring from show business — his last NBC special was in 1996, when Hope was 93 — the comic and actor was long associated with Catholic endeavors nationwide, often in partnership with his wife, a lifelong Catholic.

One such endeavor was the Our Lady of Hope Chapel at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, made possible by contributions from the couple.

Hope got his start as an entertainer in Cleveland when he was 18 years old and he started doing a vaudeville act. The fifth of seven sons, he was born Leslie Townes Hope in Eltham, England, on May 29, 1903. In 1907, Leslie's father brought the family to Cleveland.

Hope's generosity was as long lasting as his career. He was one of 100 celebrities to contribute prizes on actor Don Ameche's behalf to help a 1949 building drive at Ameche's childhood parish, All Saints in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

In 1999, Bob and Dolores Hope matched actor Paul Newman's \$250,000 donation to Catholic Relief Services to assist Kosovar refugees with a quarter-million dollars of their own.

In 1962, Hope received an honorary degree from Georgetown University in Washington; his son, Tony, graduated from Georgetown that year. It was one of dozens he received during his lifetime. Hope never attended college in real life, he cracked, because of "something called high school."

Hope was on the first honorary committee of Catholics in Media Associates, formed in 1993 to honor Catholics in the entertainment industry for their contributions.

That year, at age 90, Hope was chosen one of the 10 most admired American men in a poll of 10,000 readers of *Good Housekeeping* magazine. In 1999, Hope was selected as the top entertainment figure of the millennium in an ABC News telephone poll.

In addition to his hundreds of NBC specials, Hope also starred in close to 50 movies, the last of them being 1979's "The Muppet Movie." His best-remembered films are the "Road" movies that also starred Bing Crosby and Dorothy Lamour.

In his long life, Hope received numerous awards as a testament to his long and successful career in radio, TV and movies, as well as his charitable works and his annual Christmas visits to tell jokes to troops stationed overseas, from World War II to the Persian Gulf War.

Some of the awards and honors Hope received were: papal honors designating him as a Knight Commander of St. Gregory the Great; the Father Flanagan Award for Service to Youth, given by Girls and Boys Town; a special Christopher Award for a half-century of entertainment;

Bob Hope receives an honorary degree from Georgetown University President Jesuit Father Edward B. Bunn in June 1962. Bob and Dolores Hope donated generously to Catholic causes, including funding Our Lady of Hope Chapel at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington.



CNS FILE PHOTO FROM NBC

the first Big Shoulders Award presented by the Big Shoulders Fund, whose contributions go exclusively to inner-city Chicago Catholic schools; the 1962 Patriotism Award from the University of Notre Dame's senior class; and the Club of Champions Gold Medal from the Catholic Youth Organization.

With Hope, though, the jokes never stopped coming. He once said Catholic comic Danny Thomas was so religious that highway patrolmen stopped him for having stained-glass windows in his car.

At a 1965 testimonial dinner for Cardinal James McIntyre of Los Angeles, he said: "Being married to a

Catholic is almost like being one. I had to go all the way to Vietnam to get meat on Friday."

Commenting on his career, he told the *Catholic Herald*, Milwaukee's archdiocesan newspaper, "I inherited a voice from my mother and a sense of timing from my father and found out I could make people laugh."

Hope is survived by his wife of more than 69 years, Dolores, their four adopted children — Linda, Anthony, Nora and Kelly — and four grandchildren. According to a CNN report, his family said they will hold a private burial and scheduled a memorial Mass for Aug. 27 for relatives and close friends.

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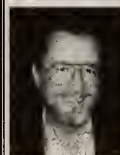
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"Exploring Connections, Seeking Sustainability – The Key Elements of *At Home in the Web of Life*"



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# Conventual Franciscan friar shares talents

*Former Winston-Salem man paints hope for Syracuse youth*

By EDWARD L. BYRNES

**SPECIAL TO THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD**  
SYRACUSE, N.Y. — Standing alone outside the Fowler Faith Center in Syracuse, looking at his unfinished mural on its large storefront windows, Conventual Franciscan Friar Brian Haverlock knows he won't remain in solitude for long.

Teen-agers soon come excitedly streaming out of the Center to ask for his opinion and advice.

The students are assisting Friar Haverlock in creating the mural, which depicts Jesus and his apostles in a boat sailing high above the waves of "hate," "vengeance" and "anger." In the mural's background sits a more peaceful Syracuse, portrayed by city landmarks and surrounded by lush pastures and brightly colored flowers.

Friar Haverlock, with a calm enthusiasm that fits his pleasant smile and receptive demeanor, answers the multitude of inquiries by pointing to an area of the mural that requires attention or by suggesting a mix of colors that may yield the desired shade.

In his last summer assignment be-

fore he takes his solemn (final) vows as a Conventual Franciscan, Friar Haverlock taught art classes twice a week to young people at the Center. He also spent two days a week at the Assumption Food Pantry where food is distributed to Syracuse's north side poor. Friar Haverlock ministered in Syracuse until late July before returning to visit his parents in Winston-Salem.

"Art is a way that will allow the kids to express themselves," explained Friar Haverlock. "And last summer, I was in Pittsboro (N.C.) and Costa Rica, so I thought it would be nice to come up north, get to know the friars up here a little better and work with the kids."

Friar Haverlock's journey will soon take him back to Washington, D.C., for his final year of school in pursuit of a master's degree in theology with a concentration in Scripture and worship.

The second of four children, Friar Haverlock was born and raised in Carrington, N.D. His parents moved to Winston-Salem when he was 15 years old. After high school, Haverlock graduated from East Carolina University in 1994 with a bachelor's degree in painting.

After graduation, he spent six months in Colchester, England working as an artist. He attempted to gain citizenship, but was denied.



COURTESY PHOTO

Conventual Franciscan Friar Brian Haverlock (second from right), formerly of Winston-Salem, stands in front of the Fowler Faith Center in Syracuse, N.Y., with its directors and the kids who make it all worthwhile.

"My spiritual conversion began after I graduated college, and at this point I was searching for a purpose, searching for God," said Friar Haverlock.

He returned to Winston-Salem and converted a room in his parents' home into an art studio. One night, he opened the Bible and started reading.

"I began discovering a meaning and purpose to my life," he said.

Soon after, he met Conventual Franciscan Father Connal McHugh, who soon became Haverlock's spiritual guide. Haverlock attended Mass with the Winston-Salem friars on several occasions.

Father McHugh suggested Haverlock read the biography of St. Francis. Haverlock also picked up a copy of the history of the Franciscan Order.

"I had read these books and everything they had to say was so attractive, and many things that I had experienced had similarities to St. Francis' experiences," said Friar Haverlock. "When I joined the Franciscan Order in 1997, I was already very familiar with the charism and gift of St. Francis."

After joining the order, Haverlock spent the next two years in Philadelphia as a candidate for the friars. He

also enrolled at La Salle University and took classes to satisfy his pre-theology requisites.

At the beginning of his year-long novitiate, Friar Haverlock spent four months in Carillos, Costa Rica, where he was immersed in the Spanish language. Then he moved back to North Carolina, where the Conventual Franciscans received his vows into simple profession.

Friar Haverlock then moved to Washington, D.C., to live and study at the St. Bonaventure Formation House of Studies while working toward his master's in theology.

On top of all that he does spiritually, Friar Haverlock continues to work on his art. Some of his pieces were recently part of a national, juried group exhibition in Winston-Salem. He also organized an exhibition of his and his summer students' work at the Assisi Center in Syracuse in late July.

"A big part of being a brother of St. Francis is sharing the gifts that God gave us," he said. "I am at my best and happiest when I am sharing my artistic gifts with these kids."

*Edward L. Byrnes is the public relations director for the Conventual Franciscan Friars of the Immaculate Conception Province in Syracuse, N.Y.*

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## New bishop for Diocese of Charlotte

FATHER JUGIS, from page 1

Jugis began studies for his doctorate in canon law at The Catholic University of America in Washington. In August 1988, Father Jugis returned to the Diocese of Charlotte as parochial vicar of Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Salisbury before heading back to Washington to continue studies in the fall of 1989.

In July 1991, he again became parochial vicar of St. Leo the Great Catholic Church and was appointed as judicial vicar of the diocesan tribunal. He received his doctorate in canon law in May 1993.

That same year, Father Jugis became pastor of Holy Infant Catholic Church in Reidsville. In March 1996, he was appointed pastor of Queen of the Apostles Catholic Church in Belmont until June 1997. He worked full-time for

**From Msgr. Mauricio W. West, diocesan administrator:**

*The Diocese of Charlotte has been truly blessed with the appointment of Father Peter J. Jugis as the next bishop of Charlotte by our Holy Father, Pope John Paul II.*

*As a native of the city of Charlotte and a diocesan priest for 20 years, Bishop-designate Jugis is familiar with the unique talents and needs of the Catholics of our diocese.*

*I am confident that Bishop-designate Jugis will continue the mission instituted by Bishop Michael J. Begley, our diocese's founding bishop, and continued by his successors, Archbishop John F. Donoghue and Bishop William G. Curlin.*

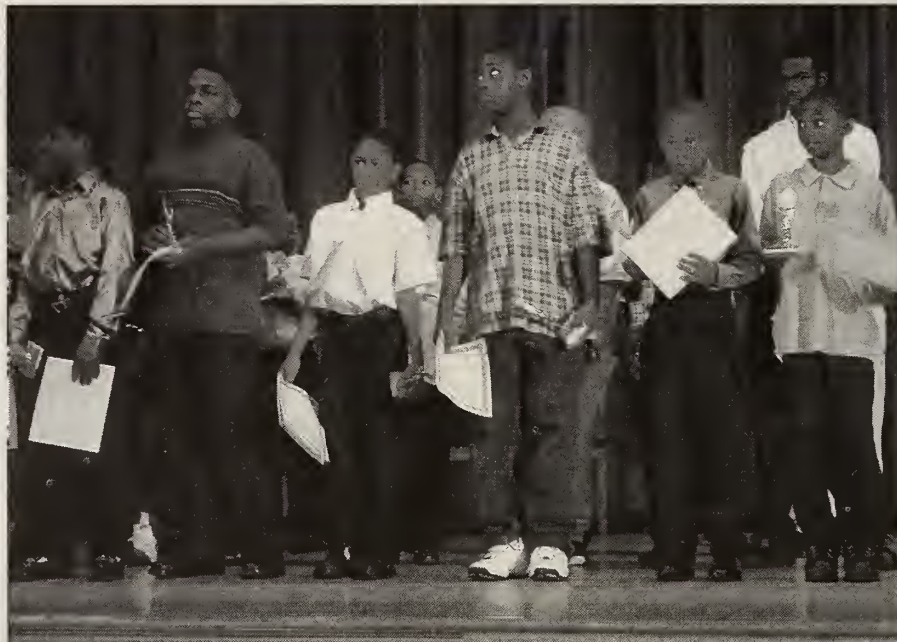
the tribunal until November 1998, when he became administrator of Holy Spirit Catholic Church in Denver, N.C.

From June 1999 to June 2001, Father Jugis returned to working full-time with the tribunal until he was appointed pastor of Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church in Monroe. He must be ordained as bishop of Charlotte within four months of receipt of the apostolic letter of appointment, according to canon law.

"The Diocese of Charlotte is growing. I expect to be very busy ... There is much work to be done as we continue Christ's mission of salvation, which he entrusted to his Catholic Church," said Father Jugis.

The Diocese of Charlotte, established in 1972, is made up of 46 counties of western North Carolina and has a registered Catholic population of approximately 140,000 out of a total population of 4 million.

## YESS program offers values to youth



COURTESY PHOTO, THE CHRONICLE

Forty kids participate in Catholic Social Services' YESS graduation ceremony at Winston-Salem University July 15.

YESS, from page 1

responsibility and self-control, YESS offers guidance, values and tools to youths with regard to sexual activity.

Both Smith, a student at the Downtown School, and McCaskill, a student at Atkins Middle School, said The Code has taught them "new things they wouldn't have learned" otherwise about sex.

Chamberlain, also a student at the Downtown School, said Sisters has taught her about sexually transmitted diseases. She said she plans to remain sexually abstinent until she gets married.

"You never know what (STDs) you might catch, and you don't want to end up (sick or pregnant) like other people," Chamberlain said.

Jeff Jones, director of YESS Prevention Programs, said that it's important for this abstinence message to reach children at a young age before they succumb to peer and societal pressures.

"We want to start the kids early because we're going up against MTV, BET and other TV shows that throw all kinds of messages out at the kids which are really for adults to see," Jones said. "We're celebrating the kids who made a

commitment to the program, and we want to celebrate them for having this drive to do positive things in their lives."

Willie G. Stevens, home-school coordinator at Latham Elementary School, was the guest speaker at the graduation. He shared a positive message of his own by telling the graduates and audience members to "take notes because we're going somewhere."

"This is not the end; this is the beginning. Take personal responsibility for your actions," Stevens said. "Take care of yourself. Don't let just anything

go into your body or into your mind ... All behavior starts somewhere, so be extremely careful what you start because your behavior is going to follow you wherever you go."

Stevens went on to tell graduates the importance of believing in themselves, respecting others, maintaining a positive attitude and setting goals in life.

"Don't think or act like a victim and then you won't become one, because throughout history we have been known to be victims of something ... Don't let anyone tell you that you are nothing! Look them square in the eye and tell them, 'I am somebody and I will be somebody!'" Stevens said.

All graduates were awarded certificates signifying their completion of their respective programs. The Code graduates were awarded trophies, and Sisters graduates were awarded charm bracelets (each with a single heart charm). The graduates then recited a pledge before family and other witnesses affirming their promise to practice sexual abstinence until marriage. Parents were asked in turn to pledge their love and support for their children and to set moral examples through their words and actions.

The YESS Prevention Program will start back up again in the fall with groups at six sites: Latham Elementary, Diggs Elementary, Ashley Elementary, Salem Gardens, Winston Lake YMCA and the Salvation Army Boys and Girls Club.

*Courtney Gaillard is a reporter for The Chronicle in Winston-Salem. This story was reprinted with permission.*

*For more information about YESS, call (336) 725-4263.*

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# Catholics research, reflect and reconnect on the Internet

INTERNET, from page 1

Internet as a tool for communication and evangelization.

"(With the Internet) we are in instant contact with people and institutions all over the world," he said.

Since the World Wide Web was created in the 1980s, literally billions of Web sites have launched worldwide. Searching the word "religion" on [www.google.com](http://www.google.com), a popular search engine, yields over 18 million sites. "Catholic" hits on 7.6 million sites.

The Catholic Church has gradually embraced the Internet, which the Vatican praises as a powerful tool for information, evangelization and communication among clergy and faithful.

Father Hoover said the Internet allows people to pray, communicate and research others' faiths. Catholics can access a myriad of information, including papal documents, Catholic publications, daily Scripture readings, prayers and general information on Catholicism.

"It's important to be in touch with the world, especially within the Catholic Church," he said.

Most churches in the Diocese of Charlotte have their own Web pages, allowing parishioners to easily access information about other churches as well as their own. These sites typically list Mass times, parish staff, weekly bulletins and links to other Catholic Web sites.

This means Catholics who happen to not attend Mass at their regular parish one weekend can still get the news from their parish.

"We had an idea to get a grant to buy computers for some of our parishioners who are shut-ins," said Father Hoover. "But so many senior citizens are afraid of technology, it didn't work out."

Father Hoover hopes to start sending weekly messages to the parishioners of St. Ann Church via e-mail to keep in closer contact with his parish.

The Internet can also be a tremendous resource for Catholics who want to understand other religions, especially Islam and the recent events in the Middle East.

"This can be one of the greatest peacemaking opportunities we have to draw closer with people all over the world," said Father Hoover.

For all its benefits, the Internet also

has its drawbacks. Much of the information available is not verified and there is a plethora of harmful material readily accessible, according to "Your Family and Cyberspace," a statement of the United States Catholic bishops.

"Just because you can find it on the Web doesn't mean it's true; and just because a site uses 'Catholic' in its name doesn't mean it reflects the teaching and practice of the Catholic faith," the document states. "Let the buyer beware" applies very much in this case."

Internet users should also be aware of the ease with which violent, hate-filled or graphically sexual material can be accessed — material that is ordinarily kept outside mainstream society.

The statement suggested several things parents can do to protect children, including choosing an Internet service provider that excludes at least some of the inappropriate material from their servers, offers parental control features or has the capability to keep a record of sites visited. It also recommends installing filtering software.

"None of these steps guarantee that your child won't be exposed to objectionable Internet content, but they are a good start," the statement says. "Even in an imperfect world, they are important because they communicate your values to your children."

Pope John Paul II has been a staunch advocate of the Internet, having given the order to create and launch [www.vatican.va](http://www.vatican.va) in 1995. When used wisely and responsibly, the Internet offers unprecedented possibilities for evangelization, the pontiff said.

"We need to enter into this modern and increasingly active network of information with realism and trust, knowing that if it is used with competence and attentive responsibility, it can offer valid opportunities for the spreading of the Gospel message," he said.

Contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans by calling (704) 370-3354 or e-mail [kaevans@charlottediocese.org](mailto:kaevans@charlottediocese.org).

There are literally thousands of Catholic-related Web sites, but here are a few of the most popular sites:

[www.vatican.va](http://www.vatican.va) — Official Web site of the Holy See

[www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org) — Official Web site of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

[www.bustedhalo.com](http://www.bustedhalo.com) — An interactive site featuring discussion boards; question-and-answer, work, relationships and popular culture forums.

[www.disciplesnow.com](http://www.disciplesnow.com) — Ministry for youth focused on the traditions, life, and mission of the Catholic faith community

[www.catholicireland.net/talktogod](http://www.catholicireland.net/talktogod) — Guided prayer for children

[www.oncecatholic.org](http://www.oncecatholic.org) — For non-practicing Catholics to get back in touch with the Catholic community

[www.americancatholic.org](http://www.americancatholic.org) — Saint of the day, minute meditations, daily question, Catholic news and more

[www.catholic.org](http://www.catholic.org) — Comprehensive, educational and timely information about Catholicism, providing a range of easy methods for Catholics to integrate their faith into their daily lives

[www.jesuit.ie/prayer](http://www.jesuit.ie/prayer) — Guided prayer in the tradition of St. Ignatius of Loyola

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## Book Review

# Book attracts readers trying to understand lapsed Catholics

By PATRICIA ZAPOR  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON (CNS) — His newest book may be called, "It's Not the Same Without You," but the people buying Mitch Finley's latest work seem to be those who want to understand why people leave and return to the Catholic Church, rather than those its title aspires to reach.

In a phone interview with Catholic News Service July 21, Finley, author of more than 30 books on Catholic topics, said the people he has been hearing from since "Without You" was released in February apparently are buying the book as a way to help them figure out what has led their friends or family members to break away from the Catholic Church.

"They're not buying it to give to people who have been alienated from the

theology or liturgy since the Second Vatican Council; and those who simply drifted away.

Some of those mentioned in the book tell of returning to the church after working out whatever problem led them to leave or after being invited back. Others flatly say they don't miss it, are happy with their decision or could never see themselves getting past the issue that led them to leave.

Finley frequently cites a line from author Father Andrew Greeley: "If you can find a perfect church go ahead and join it, but as soon as you do it won't be perfect anymore."

He said his research helped him understand the depth of often-justifiable hurt that some people have about the Catholic Church as well as the unreasonable expectations other people have of the institution.

"If somebody wants a reason to become a lapsed Catholic, they're not going to have any trouble finding a reason," he said.

Most of the people he discusses have good reasons, he said. "At the same time, for some of the others, it's as much the individual's fault as it is the institution's."

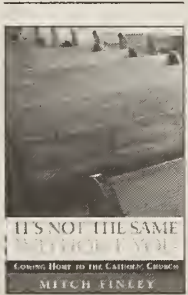
Often resolving such situations means the church, or someone representing it, has to ask for forgiveness, Finley said. "But sometimes people have to admit they are being childish in their expectations of the institution."

The book briefly discusses programs organized in some dioceses or by religious orders to welcome people back — inviting them to air their grievances and offering answers and explanations for their questions.

That's the direction Finley said he would like to take his own writing on the topic.

He said he considers it heroic for some people to come back to the Catholic Church after they have been seriously hurt by someone in the church or something in its teachings. It's their stories he'd like to explore further as well as to publicize what institutional efforts are helping people find their way back.

"It's kind of a traditional Catholic thing to look down our noses at people who have 'fallen away,'" Finley said. "We tend to have a tough time listening to those people. But sometimes they see things that may have to change for the good of the church."



"It's Not the Same Without You: Coming Home to the Catholic Church," by Mitch Finley. Image Books/Doubleday (New York, 2003). 193 pp., \$12.95.

church, but to help themselves understand what their friends or relatives have gone through," he said.

Finley said he was prompted to write the book by the same desire those readers express — the desire to understand why so many relatives and friends feel alienated from the church that means so much to him.

The book uses anecdotes from dozens of people who described themselves as "lapsed," "fallen away" or "recovering" Catholics. Their stories include those who feel they were treated insensitively by someone in the church at a critical moment; those who disagreed with a point of church teaching or changes in

## Word to Life

Sunday Scripture Readings:  
Aug. 10, 2003

Aug. 10, Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

### Cycle B Readings:

- 1) 1 Kings 19:4-8  
Psalm 34:2-9
- 2) Ephesians 4:30-5:2
- 3) Gospel: John 6:41-51

By JEFF HENSLEY  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

With the current shortage of priests, the topic of how we deal with Sunday celebrations in the absence of a priest (the gobbledygook phrase we use to mean that we will gather and worship and receive the Eucharist but that the Mass will not be celebrated) gets a lot of discussion.

Recently I was having one of these discussions with a friend who is very knowledgeable about the theology surrounding these issues. I was saying to him that the high point of the Mass for me is always my contemplation of Jesus' total gift of himself at the consecration of the bread and wine.

I found out from him that, theologically, the high point is the actual reception of Jesus' body and blood.

I'm sure my friend is right, theologically, but still and all, the point at which I "get it," the point at which I

measure my failing to give all that I can in love of God and others, is this point in the Mass.

I once had a friend who had a traveling ministry to people in need. Ron was an odd piece of work, but a good man. He would always be muttering the prayer, "Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner." Without the total gift of Jesus to us, without the bread of life offered for us, without God's giving Jesus to us in every way and at the highest cost imaginable, that prayer would be empty of its ultimate meaning.

But the bread of life did "come down from heaven," and anyone who "eats this bread ... shall live forever," and Jesus did give his very flesh "for the life of the world."

And so we continue to be challenged by God's total gift of Jesus week after week, with a priest present to celebrate or not, and we will continue to fail to fully give all that we are, in love. But because of the greatness of the gift, we will also be able to say, with confidence and gladness in our repentance, "Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner." Thanks for the example, Ron.

### Question:

In your spiritual life, what brings you to your knees, figuratively, before the greatness of God's gift?

## Weekly Scripture

### Scripture for the week of August 10 - August 16

Sunday (Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time), 1 Kings 19:4-8, Ephesians 4:30-5:2, John 6:41-51; Monday (St. Clare), Deuteronomy 10:12-22, Matthew 17:22-27; Tuesday, Deuteronomy 31:1-8, Matthew 18:1-5, 10, 12-14; Wednesday (Sts. Pontian and Hippolytus), Deuteronomy 34:1-12, Matthew 18:15-20; Thursday (St. Maximilian Kolbe), Joshua 3:7-11, 13-17, Matthew 18:21-19:1; Friday (The Assumption of Mary), Revelation 11:19; 12:1-6, 10, 1 Corinthians 15:20-27; Luke 1:39-56; Saturday (St. Stephen of Hungary), Joshua 24:14-29, Matthew 19:13-15

### Scripture for the week of August 17 - August 23

Sunday (Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time), Proverbs 9:1-6, Ephesians 5:15-20, John 6:51-58; Monday (St. Jane Frances de Chantal), Judges 2:11-19, Matthew 19:16-22; Tuesday (St. John Eudes), Judges 6:11-24, Matthew 19:23-30; Wednesday (St. Bernard), Judges 9:6-15, Matthew 20:1-16; Thursday (St. Pius X), Judges 11:29-39, Matthew 22:1-14; Friday (The Queenship of Mary), Ruth 1:1, 3, 6, 14-16, 22, Matthew 22:34-40; Saturday (St. Rose of Lima), Ruth 2:1-3, 8-11; 4:13-17, Matthew 23:1-12

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'Game Over' for Spy Kids movie franchise



CNS PHOTO BY DIMENSION FILMS

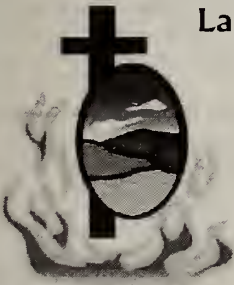
Ryan Pinkston stars in the movie "Spy Kids 3D: Game Over," a flat kiddie-actioner that finds junior agent Juni Cortez (Daryl Sabara) entering a 3-D video game in order to save his sister, Carmen (Alexa Vega), from a diabolical menace known as the Toymaker (Sylvester Stallone) bent on taking over the world's youth through a video game that controls their minds. Despite a positive message about family and forgiveness and some inventive visuals, the movie is 3-D — as in dull, dumb and disappointing. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-II — adults and adolescents. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG — parental guidance suggested.

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Movie Capsules

NEW YORK (CNS) — The following are capsule reviews of movies recently reviewed by the Office for Film & Broadcasting of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

"Buffalo Soldiers" (Miramax)

Pitch-black satire about a sly Army supply clerk (Joaquin Phoenix) who runs scams on a U.S. Army base in West Germany until he gets a taste of his own medicine when a new officer (Scott Glenn) arrives to clean house. Director Gregor Jordan misfires with this skewed take on military honor, lacing the film with a toxic cynicism that undercuts its otherwise darkly humorous satirizing of American capitalism. A benign attitude toward felony, some sexual situations, recurring violence and drug abuse, as well as much rough language and profanity. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is O — morally offensive. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is R — restricted.

"Dirty Pretty Things" (Miramax)

Soulful tale set in a small London hotel where a Nigerian overnight desk clerk (Chiwetel Ejiofor) discovers the manager (Sergei Lopez) is exploiting other illegal immigrants in a passports-for-kidneys black-market operation that threatens to engulf his virginal friend, a desperate Turkish immigrant (Audrey Tautou). Director Stephen Frears skillfully blends suspense with a twist of black comedy in a sleek, very human story of impoverished aliens forced to take desperate measures. Theme of sexual exploitation, abortion reference, surgical gore, fleeting drug abuse, frequent rough language and minimal profanity. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-III — adults. The Mo-

tion Picture Association of America rating is R — restricted.

"Lara Croft Tomb Raider: The Cradle of Life" (Paramount)

Entertaining action film about globetrotting archeologist and adventurer Lara Croft (Angelina Jolie), who must find Pandora's Box before a maniacal scientist (Ciaran Hinds) can unleash its power and destroy the world. Though Jolie shines, director Jan De Bont's roller-coaster sequel, while a marked upgrade from the 2001 original, deviates little from its predecessor's recipe of repetitive action sequences at the expense of story and character. Much action violence, brief sensuality and some profanity. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-III — adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13 — parents are strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.

"Masked and Anonymous" (Sony Classics)

Anesthetizing drama set in a war-torn, Third World country under dictatorial rule in which a concert promoter (John Goodman) springs a has-been musician (Bob Dylan) from jail to perform at a benefit concert. With pretentious and self-consciously cute dialogue, director Larry Charles' film lacks cohesion as the ensemble cast meanders through an incoherent script that purports to make a sociopolitical statement, but instead bores with its meaningless platitudes and diatribes. Brief violence, minimal crass language and an instance of profanity and rough language. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-II — adults and adolescents. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13 — parents are strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.



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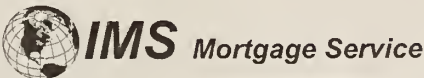
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## The Pope Speaks

POPE JOHN PAUL II

## Pope celebrates Mass, dedicates audience to Pope Paul VI

By CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

CASTEL GANDOLFO, Italy (CNS) — Honoring Pope Paul VI on the 25th anniversary of his death, Pope John Paul II celebrated a memorial Mass for his predecessor and dedicated much of his weekly general audience to the anniversary.

Pope Paul died Aug. 6, 1978, at the papal summer residence south of Rome after serving as pontiff for 15 years.

Marking the anniversary at Castel Gandolfo, Pope John Paul celebrated an early morning memorial Mass and met 3,500 visitors who came for the general audience.

In remarks before the Mass in the chapel of the summer villa, Pope John Paul said the liturgy for the Aug. 6 feast of Christ's transfiguration includes a prayer that by receiving the Eucharist "we will be transformed into the image of Christ."

"Paul VI also made this prayer," the pope said. "And we ask this for him today so that, contemplating the face of his Lord, he will enjoy forever the vision of his glory."

At the audience, Pope John Paul spoke of the Angelus address Pope Paul had prepared for the public the day he died, an address he was unable to read.

Reflecting on the light the Gospel described as radiating from Jesus during the transfiguration, Pope Paul had written: "That light which flooded him is and will be part of our inheritance and splendor as well. We are called to share such glory because we are participants in the divine nature."

Pope John Paul said his predecessor knew that every gesture and choice he made each day must be part of "the great passage he was preparing for step by step" as his death approached.

"For believers, death is the final 'amen' of their earthly existence," a yes to God's promise of eternal life, the pope said.

At the audience, Pope John Paul also paid tribute to St. Pius X, who was elected pope Aug. 4, 1903. More than 300 pilgrims from the Diocese of Treviso, St. Pius' home diocese, attended the audience to mark the anniversary.

### A new mission

It seems our Holy Father has seen fit to give me new responsibilities within our diocese. I have accepted his appointment of me as bishop of Charlotte, and I am very humbled by the confidence our Holy Father has placed in me.

During my 20 years as a priest of the Diocese of Charlotte, I have had the privilege of serving in many locations in our diocese: as pastor in Monroe, in Belmont and in Reidsville; as parish administrator in Denver; as priest in residence in Huntersville and at St. Patrick's Cathedral in Charlotte; and as parochial vicar in Salisbury, Winston-Salem and Charlotte.

For 17 of those 20 years, I have served in the diocesan marriage tribunal, with 12 of those years as judicial vicar.

I pray that I will be a worthy successor to Bishop William G. Curlin, bishop emeritus of Charlotte, and serve with just as much zeal for souls as he, and Archbishop John F. Donoghue, our second bishop, and Bishop Michael J. Begley, our founding bishop, did in their years as shepherd.

From personal experience, I know that God has blessed our diocese in our priests and deacons. I have had the privilege of serving alongside them in sacred ministry during all these years, and I am proud to say that I am a priest of the Diocese of Charlotte. I have also had the privilege of serving alongside religious sisters and many wonderful and

## Guest Column

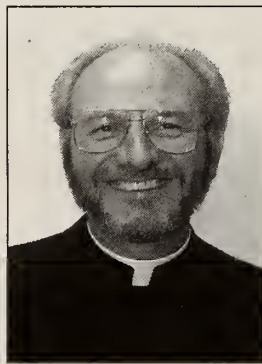


FATHER PETER J. JUGIS  
BISHOP DESIGNATE

gifted lay people in parish ministry and diocesan ministry. The strong faith and the religious devotion of all Christ's people are gifts of God for our diocese.

The Diocese of Charlotte is growing. All of us are participating in this growth, and I expect to be very busy. There is much work to be done as we continue Christ's mission of salvation, which he entrusted to his church. The Code of Canon Law reminds us that the salvation of souls is the supreme law of the church. Christ's love urges us on in this divine mission given to us by our Savior.

I am eager to begin my work. I remember all the people of the diocese in my daily prayers, and I ask for the charity of your prayers.



## Faith & the Marketplace

GLENMARY FATHER  
JOHN S. RAUSCH  
GUEST COLUMNIST

### Mountain sisters

Although the temperature outside hovered in the low 30s, the stoked potbelly stove turned the makeshift classroom in the old railroad depot into a torrid July afternoon. A.L. rose to crack a few windows to avoid falling asleep during my lecture on the GDP deflator. I was teaching a three-hour night class on economics in mid winter accredited by the local community college, but arranged by the Dungannon Development Commission.

The deal was simple: the town of Dungannon, Va., had adults wanting further education and the community college needed increased enrollment. Rather than a dozen students each driving nearly an hour to the campus, the DDC got the college to send the teachers to Dungannon. In addition, the DDC's education committee screened the teachers allowing only those sensitive to rural students and their needs to participate.

While the people of Dungannon took charge of their destiny, the inspiration for that empowerment came from the community development approach of Anne Leibig and other members of the Federation of Communities in Service (FOCIS.) Part of the Dungannon story is told in a book recently published by The University Press of Kentucky, "Mountain Sisters: From Convent to Community in Appalachia."

The original mountain sisters were Glenmary Sisters dedicated to the church's mission in Appalachia. When disputes with church authorities over dress and rules hindered their freedom for mission, 44 left the convent in 1967 to form FOCIS. "Mountain Sisters" recounts that history, but more important, explains the way FOCIS members worked among mountain people in rural communities discovering

and affirming the Appalachian culture while addressing certain social and economic obstacles along the way.

Their community development philosophy proved holistic, communal and alternative. They pioneered local ownership of health clinics in Appalachia with a non-profit structure, replacing the ineffective market-driven model of physicians in private practice. These clinics addressed the broad community health issues besides offering individual medical treatment.

Truly listening to the needs of the area allowed FOCIS members to create structures alongside the local people. The direction was "doing with," not "for." They organized craft co-ops, a worker-owned restaurant, a sewing co-op, health clinics, a land trust, various educational and housing programs, plus volunteer programs to serve Appalachia and to educate outsiders. The approach concentrated on developing human capital, homegrown industries and services meeting the needs of families within community.

Development included not just jobs, but education and human growth, the affirmation of community and respect for the land. Celebrations in art and music awakened whole communities, and numerous projects in education and legal services empowered women to face the patriarchal patterns of society at large.

Theologian Cornel West writes about a Socratic spirituality — the ability to think critically. Socrates said, "The unexamined life is not worth living." All life begs a deeper look, so basically, examine the tacit assumptions and explanations of the dominate class. FOCIS people brought social and political analysis into their work. Hence, programs evolved from outrage to advocacy, from charity to justice, from service to social change.

The FOCIS approach never directly battled the medical, legal or educational establishments in rural areas, but by working with the local community FOCIS members developed alternative and supplemental programs.

Over the years, FOCIS opened its membership beyond the original sisters. I joined in 1988. The FOCIS model of listening and service grows more essential today with government cutbacks and social indifference. That model also fits inner cities and oppressed communities, and not just the mountains.

(The FOCIS Development Fund benefits from each sale of "Mountain Sisters" when purchased from [www.CreeksidePress.com](http://www.CreeksidePress.com).)





## Light One Candle

MSGR. JIM LISANTE  
GUEST COLUMNIST

### A succession of blessings

A few years ago, a longtime friend of The Christophers named Sister Florence Pakenham wrote to tell us a beautiful personal story. We liked it so much that we wrote back and asked if we might share it with others. Sister Florence, a Sister of Charity of St. Elizabeth now living in St. Anne's Villa, Convent Station, N.J., graciously gave us her permission: "Whenever you think the time is right," she said. That time is now.

Almost 65 years ago, at Christmas time in 1939, she and another sister enjoyed a tour of Radio City Music Hall in Manhattan. Their guide was quite remarkable: "A tall, slim dark-haired young man with one of the most beautiful speaking voices I have ever heard... (It) had a living warmth that was most attractive." He spoke to many tour groups throughout the day, but his words nonetheless "sounded singularly fresh — almost spontaneous." They had a brief conversation, in which he referred to his Californian background.

"Later, I mentioned to the other sister that it seemed a pity that one so obviously cultured could not get a position better than that of guide," she said. "He had impressed me deeply, so deeply that I added his name ('Radio City Guide,' the only name

I knew) in my daily prayers that God would give him success in the career He meant him to have."

Four years later, she saw a picture of him in *The New York Times*, and news that he would be featured in his first Broadway play. Now she had a name to mention in her daily prayer for his success. Two more years went by, and during the showing of a movie at her motherhouse, Sister Florence was pleasantly surprised to see her old guide — now a star in that film, portraying a priest in China.

Fan letters were out of her sphere, but she felt she had to write to her "spiritual protégé," as she thought of him, to tell him of their chance meeting years earlier. And so she did; on Aug. 4, 1945. She concluded: "I hope you do not think me presumptuous for taking a keen and personal delight in the splendid success you have achieved, and for attributing a bit of that success to my daily prayers."

The actor's reply was warm and personal. He recalled coming to New York in June 1939 and of the struggle he underwent "attending dramatic school, frequenting the managers' offices and working part-time at Radio City to keep myself going." It was three years before he got his first break, but since then his career had soared.

"Although I am not a Catholic and often give thanks to Lady Luck for all my good fortune," he concluded, "I am certain that there is more to it than that and I am deeply grateful for your prayers and good wishes, as well as for those of other Catholics whom I know and love. Your faith, I am sure, had much to do with the succession of blessings which have come my way ..."

He didn't know it then, but for Sister Florence's correspondent a lifetime of blessings, and one of the most illustrious careers in film history, still lay ahead. The letter from the young actor was written from Culver City, Calif., on Aug. 21, 1945. He signed it, "Yours sincerely, Gregory Peck."

### Communion: How many times a day?

*Q. If one goes to a wedding and funeral Mass the same day, may he receive Communion at both Masses? I understand that twice a day is permitted now. (Iowa)*

A. You are correct. The Code of Canon Law (917) says that one may receive Communion more than once, but only at Mass. In 1984, The Vatican Commission for the Interpretation of Canon Law ruled that even at Mass one should not receive more than twice a day. The nature of the Mass — wedding, Sunday or weekday Mass, Mass in a home, etc. — makes no difference.

### Communion: By priests or eucharistic ministers?

*Q. My sister is a strong believer in the "old ways and rules." For example, she will not receive Communion from a layperson even if she's in the hospital. She insists on a priest because, she says, the priest's two fingers were anointed to give Communion.*

*She pushes her way into the Communion line on Sunday to be sure to get to a priest. Another of our sisters is an extraordinary eucharistic minister for a nursing home; she is roundly criticized by this sister for daring to give Communion.*

*Is she overly religious or is she right? She has a book of Catholic answers from 1989 that suggests having eucharistic ministers is wrong. It seems to me it is just refusing the Lord because we don't approve of the bearer. (Illinois)*

A. The use of approved and trained extraordinary eucharistic ministers, lay or religious, has been legal and proper again since 1973, provided for in Pope Paul VI's instruction "Immensae Caritatis." I say again because Communion given by lay people, both in the liturgy and to the homebound, was common in the church for centuries until the later practice developed limiting the ministry to ordained clergy.

If the answer in her book states what you say it does, it is wrong. The same rules in existence now were in exist-

## Question Corner

FATHER JOHN DIETZEN  
CNS COLUMNIST



ence then. Some people, like your sister, don't like it, but it is the law of the church.

I truly doubt that you can say anything to your sister that will make any difference. She is like some others, on this and other matters, who are convinced they are right and the pope and the rest of the church are wrong.

Her actions reveal at very least a distorted understanding of the Eucharist. Does she believe somehow that receiving from a layperson gives her "less Jesus" than from a priest? Does she think they don't believe in the Eucharist as much as she does, and therefore receiving from them diminishes the sacrament?

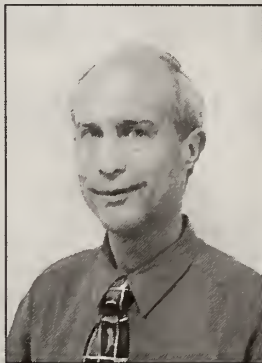
Her comment about a priest's anointing is way off track theologically. I thought even the most reactionary Catholics had gotten beyond that. To say it as gently as possible, this understanding of the priesthood and the Eucharist borders on superstition.

A priest is not ordained, nor are his hands (not two fingers) anointed with oil at ordination, to qualify him to give Communion. The anointing designates him for all those functions, especially sacramental ones, which he will fulfill as an ordained minister of the church. At the moment of anointing, the bishop asks Jesus to preserve the newly ordained priest "to sanctify the Christian people and to offer sacrifice to God."

I think the last sentence of your question hits the point, and says it all.

## Southeast FIRE Rally

MICHAEL COYLE  
GUEST COLUMNIST



### Catholics need FIRE

When the culture becomes more pagan, Christians are affected. The church has a choice in such a spiritual crisis: acquiesce to the prevailing conditions or fight against them.

There is no question that our current society grows increasingly atheistic. Politics, business, entertainment and advertising all steadily promote a Godless existence without consequences. This dark climate of materialism, narcissism, pragmatism and pluralism allows no place for God in public life, while the occult gains wider acceptance. As a result, human life is violently attacked on all sides, constituting what Pope John Paul II rightly terms a "culture of death."

At the same time, our church is itself beset with scandal, dissent and complacency. The church today truly appears weakened. In large part, Catholics have lost the sense of the sacred. Our catechesis is often diluted and ineffective. Catholic institutions frequently seem too reticent about representing and promoting authentic Catholic values. Forty years after the reforms of Vatican II, too many Catholics still consider the extent of the spiritual and apostolic life merely to be the passive, measured observance of obligations.

The church is in dire need of spiritual renewal. To prevent her members from becoming desensitized by our culture, and from engaging in moral compromises, the church desperately needs a wake-up call. If the Body of Christ is to take ownership of her divine mission and effectively combat all of the negative forces present in society today, her members need to be purified, enlightened, liberated and empowered to live, share and defend courageously and generously a personal, total and explicit faith in the person of Jesus Christ and in his church. A new evangelization must take place. The Spirit of God must be invited to enliven and transform the members of the Bride of Christ, to produce viable, abundant fruits of compassion, enthusiasm, peace and unity. In short, Catholics need to experience anew the fire of God's extravagant love.

The upcoming Southeast FIRE Rally provides such a life-changing opportunity for the Family of God. The FIRE Rally is a one-day, Catholic, evangelistic event for all adults, composed of dynamic music and four inspiring, powerful talks by the nationally-recognized four-member FIRE Team, including a closing liturgy with the local bishop. The teaching topics are taken from the four words for which FIRE is an acronym: Faith, Intercession, Repentance and Evangelism.

This second Southeast FIRE Rally will be held Saturday, March 13, 2004, from 9 am to 6 pm, at the 5000-seat Charlotte Bobcats Training Center, in Fort Mill, S.C., off of I-77 (exit 88), just five minutes south of Charlotte. Doors will open at 8 am.

The original Southeast FIRE Rally, held Sept. 18, 1999, at Belmont Abbey College, in Belmont, N.C., was a tremendous success and was sold-out in advance with over 2,300 enthusiastic adults in attendance.

To take advantage of this marvelous occasion of grace and hope, visit <http://www.fireministry.org/charlotte> or call Good News Ministries at (704) 521-9949.

Michael Coyle is associate coordinator of Good News Ministries.



# Mercy Sister Mary Perpetua Joyce leaves legacy in N.C.

BELMONT — Mercy Sister Mary Perpetua Joyce, 98, died Wednesday, July 30, 2003, at Marian Center, Sacred Heart Convent in Belmont. She was received as a Sister of Mercy on May 26, 1927, and was in her 76th year as a Sister of Mercy.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held Aug. 1 in Cardinal Gibbons Memorial Chapel and burial followed at the Belmont Abbey Cemetery.

Sister Mary Perpetua Joyce was born May 11, 1905, in Westport, County Mayo, Ireland. Her baptismal name was Bridget Joyce; she took the

French. She attended the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, both of which conferred her teaching certifications.

Throughout her ministerial career she taught at many parochial schools around the diocese. Her first teaching assignment was at Sacred Heart School in Salisbury in 1927. During her tenure, she also taught at Nazareth Orphanage in Raleigh, St. Leo's School in Belmont, St. Mary's in Wilmington, Our Lady of Mercy High School in Charlotte, Sacred Heart Academy in Belmont and Asheville Catholic High School.

From 1972-73, she capably handled supervision of the Sacred Heart College and Academy's McCarthy Library.

Additionally, she served her community by teaching Sunday School for high school students in 1966 and later acted as local superior 1969-1970. In 1977, Sister Mary Perpetua returned to teaching in a parochial school in St. Cloud, Minn., where she continued to share her extensive knowledge in subjects that included Spanish, literature, advanced grammar, composition and vocabulary.

Having spent over 60 years educating youth in parochial schools, Sister Mary Perpetua returned to Belmont in March 1994, where she remained active in a prayer ministry until her death.

Sister Mary Perpetua was the daughter of the late Thomas Joyce and Anastasia Morahan Joyce. Her regional community and several nieces and nephews survive her.

*Memorials may be made to the Sisters of Mercy, Sacred Heart Convent, 100 Mercy Drive, Belmont, N.C. 28012-4805.*



Mercy Sister Mary Perpetua Joyce

name Sister Mary Perpetua upon entering the religious order of the Sisters of Mercy on Aug. 23, 1926.

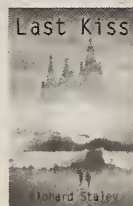
Sister Perpetua received her bachelor's degree in languages and general studies from St. Joseph College in Maryland, and she also attended Catholic University in Washington and Iona College in New York, where she studied

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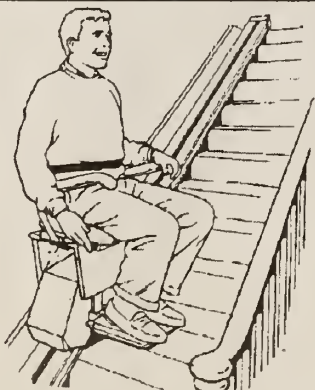
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# Upcoming event promises to revive the spirit

By KEVIN E. MURRAY  
EDITOR

CHARLOTTE — An old-fashioned revival, "Revival of the Spirit 2003: Called, Appointed and Anointed," will take place at Our Lady of Consolation Church Aug. 21-24.

Reminiscent of the earlier days of outdoor preaching, the four-day event will "truly revive the spirits of those who attend from a scriptural perspective in the tradition of the African-American religious experience," said Rev. Mr. Curtiss Todd, vice chancellor and vicar for African American Affairs Ministry, who is sponsoring the event.

"If our spirits are truly revived, then we will come to a fuller understanding of our call, our appointment and our anointing," said Rev. Mr. Todd.

Although the African American Affairs Ministry sponsors the event, Rev. Mr. Todd said, "All people are invited to attend, regardless of ethnicity and religious affiliation."

This year's revivalist will be Sister Anita Price Baird, a member of the Daughters of the Heart of Mary. A Chicago native, Sister Anita is the president of the National Black Catholic Sisters Conference. She had a major role in the establishment of the Archdiocese of Chicago's Office for Black Catholic Ministries and was named African-American Catholic of the Year by the archdiocese in 1991.

"Sister Anita will bring God's word with truth, conviction and vibrancy," said Rev. Mr. Todd.

Because of the importance of music in liturgy, the revival's first three nights will each begin with a concert. Performing choirs are the Stroller Singers from AME Zion Church in Cornelius, the Genesis Mass Choir from Lancaster, S.C., and the Men's Choir from C.N. Jenkins Memorial Presbyterian Church in Charlotte.

The Perpetual Hope Gospel Choir of Our Lady of Consolation Church will provide music at the closing worship on Sunday, at which Msgr. Mauricio W. West, diocesan administrator, will be the principal celebrant and homilist.

Contact Editor Kevin E. Murray by calling (704) 370-3334 or e-mail [kemurray@charlottediocese.org](mailto:kemurray@charlottediocese.org).

## WANT TO GO?

"Revival of the Spirit 2003: Called, Appointed and Anointed" will take place Aug. 21-24 at Our Lady of Consolation Church, 2301 Statesville Ave., Charlotte. For a schedule of events, please see the ad on page 16. For more information, call (704) 370-3339.

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



COURTESY PHOTO

## St. Mary's VBS grows fruits of the Spirit

SHELBY — Over 100 children, teens and adults had some fun "down on the farm" during the SonHarvest Vacation Bible School at St. Mary Church June 23-27.

In accordance with the week's theme, the parish hall was transformed into a "farm" — complete with a "farmhouse" and "farmland." A barn greeted children as they entered; in the main room, filing cabinets had been changed to bales of hay with stalls for the cardboard cows, horses and pigs. A farm kitchen was crafted complete with curtains, pies and lots of good food and smells.

The hallways had the look of neighboring farms and the classrooms became the County Fair Blue Ribbon Craft Room.

Children ages 6-10 began each evening with the performance of a skit and then traveled to different areas of the church grounds to experience and learn the lessons, crafts, songs, games and snacks relating to the fruits of the spirit of love, peace, patience, joy and kindness.

The preschool group learned their lessons in the "chicken coop" and outdoors. They and other children enjoyed visits of real ponies, horses, chicks and bunnies.

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**Thursday, August 21**  
*through*  
**Sunday, August 24**



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# REVIVAL

**"REVIVAL OF THE SPIRIT 2003:  
 Called, Appointed and Anointed"**

"REVIVAL OF THE SPIRIT 2003: CALLED, APPOINTED AND ANOINTED" IS THE THEME FOR THIS YEAR'S REVIVAL. THE REVIVAL IS AN OPPORTUNITY TO PUBLICLY WORSHIP OUR GOD IN THE SPIRIT OF THE BLACK CHURCH WHILE AT THE SAME TIME BREAKING DOWN TRADITIONAL MISCONCEPTIONS OF CATHOLICISM BY OUR PROTESTANT BROTHERS AND SISTERS.



*Sponsored by: African American Affairs Ministry of the Diocese of Charlotte*

## WEEKEND SCHEDULE

Thursday, Aug. 21	Friday, Aug. 22	Saturday, Aug. 23	Sunday, Aug. 24
<p><b>6:30 p.m.</b>  <b>Gospel Concert</b></p> <p><b>MUSIC BY:</b>  <i>The Stroller Singers,            Torrence Chapel            AME Zion Church,            Cornelius, NC</i></p> <p><b>7:30 p.m.</b>  <b>Preaching</b>  <i>Sister Anita Baird, DHM            President,            National Black            Catholic Sisters            Conference            Chicago, Illinois</i></p>	<p><b>6:30 p.m.</b>  <b>Gospel Concert</b></p> <p><b>MUSIC BY:</b>  <i>Genesis Mass Choir,            Lancaster, SC</i></p> <p><b>7:30 p.m.</b>  <b>Preaching</b>  <i>Sister Anita Baird, DHM            President,            National Black            Catholic Sisters            Conference            Chicago, Illinois</i></p>	<p><b>6:30 p.m.</b>  <b>Gospel Concert</b></p> <p><b>MUSIC BY:</b>  <i>Men's Choir,            C.N. Jenkins Memorial            Presbyterian Church,            Charlotte, NC</i></p> <p><b>7:30 p.m.</b>  <b>Preaching</b>  <i>Sister Anita Baird, DHM            President,            National Black            Catholic Sisters            Conference            Chicago, Illinois</i></p>	<p><b>11:00 a.m.</b>  <b>Closing Worship</b></p> <p><b>MUSIC BY:</b>  <i>The Perpetual Hope            Gospel Choir,            Charlotte, NC</i></p> <p><i>Celebrant and Homilist            Msgr. Mauricio W. West            Diocesan Administrator,            Diocese of Charlotte</i></p>



***For more information, please call 704-370-3339***



Roman Catholic  
Diocese of Charlotte



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# THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

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benefit priests'  
retirements

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AUGUST 22, 2003

SERVING CATHOLICS IN WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA IN THE DIOCESE OF CHARLOTTE

VOLUME 12 No 41

## SACRAMENTAL LIFE

# Baptism is first step to salvation

By KEVIN E. MURRAY  
EDITOR

*Editor's Note: This is the third story in a series on the seven sacraments.*

CHARLOTTE — The faces of Brian and Theresa Burbidge were all smiles as their infant son, Michael, was baptized into the Catholic Church.

Auxiliary Bishop Michael F. Burbidge of Philadelphia, Brian's cousin,

performed the baptism at St. Thomas Aquinas Church July 26.

"It was an honor to have someone in my family be able to do this," said Brian.

Baptizing their son was an important moment for the Burbidges.

"We welcomed Michael into our community of faith," said Theresa. "It established his relationship with Christ that will last his entire lifetime."

See BAPTISM, page 12

# All aboard



PHOTO BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

Walt Przygocki, Ginny Hutton, Bob Wehde, Carole Breerwood and Kevin O'Herron are among six new principals heading up diocesan Catholic schools this year.

## New principals steer six diocesan Catholic schools

By KAREN A. EVANS  
STAFF WRITER

CHARLOTTE — Students at six diocesan Catholic schools were greeted by new principals when schools opened their doors the morning of Aug. 18.

Four faces were familiar to students: Kevin O'Herron, former assistant principal of All Saints School in Charlotte, took the reins at nearby St. Matthew School. Walt Przygocki

See PRINCIPALS, page 9

## THE RIGHT STUFF AT CATHOLIC SCHOOLS



COURTESY PHOTO

Charles Jones, a teacher and coach at Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School in Kernersville, leads freshmen down the hallway on their first day of school Aug. 18.

# Students return to new, expanded Catholic schools

By KEVIN E. MURRAY  
EDITOR

CHARLOTTE — It's that time of year again.

Approximately 7,200 students donned uniforms and backpacks for the start of another year at the 18 diocesan Catholic schools by Aug. 18.

"After all the paint brushes, construction crews, plumbers and scaffolds were removed, school has really begun in our Catholic schools," said Linda Cherry, superinten-

dent of Catholic schools.

Various schools have undergone renovations, construction and yard work, said Cherry. Additionally, there have been numerous staff meetings over the summer, for all new principals, new teachers and all teachers' assistants. All new teachers also attended a religious in-service day with Mercy Sister Maureen Meehan, director of religious formation in schools.

See SCHOOLS, page 7

## More Coverage

page 6 | MACS, TRACS Foundation helps raise funds

page 8 | Workshop provides teaching perspectives

page 8 | Campus ministry director takes roll as student

## Charged to serve

Deacons gear up for prison ministry

## Working as one for many

Parish council retreats for skills

## Parish Profile:

St. Patrick Cathedral

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# In Brief

Current topics and upcoming events from around the world to your own backyard

## New Yorkers seek church as safe haven during blackout



CNS PHOTO BY OCTAVIO DURAN

People rest on the steps of St. Francis of Assisi Church in Manhattan Aug. 15, the morning following a night without electricity in New York. The church remained open through the night to accommodate those who did not feel safe elsewhere.

## Catholic hospitals step in during blackout emergencies

WASHINGTON (CNS) — When the power went out in the Northeast, from New York to Michigan, and in parts of Canada Aug. 14, traffic was brought to a standstill, offices and homes quickly became overheated, people coped as best they could without normal conveniences and Catholic hospitals stepped right into emergency operations.

St. Vincent's Hospital Manhattan, accustomed to taking emergency crowds from the 1993 attack on the World Trade Center and the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, implemented its emergency preparation plans as soon as the city began evacuating sometime after 4 p.m.

Without power and operating on an emergency generator, St. Vincent's saw a high volume of emergency room visits including heat-related admissions and people with asthma. People also came into the hospital with lacerations and fractures from getting out of the emergency exits of trapped subway cars.

The hospital set up an area it dubbed "incident command central" where hundreds of staff members remained available

and stayed overnight. Emergency personnel faced the difficulty of handling a tremendous number of calls from high-rise buildings where they were forced to carry patients down 20 or more flights. They also brought at least one woman who was in labor to the hospital.

In Cleveland, Marymount Hospital immediately canceled elective procedures and called in extra physicians. The hospital, which has a three-day supply of potable water and generator power, "had no issues with patient care at all," according to Mary Parsons, the hospital's director of marketing.

Providence Hospital in Southfield, Mich., operated on generator power Aug. 14 and 15.

Lou Martin, hospital spokesman, said he was impressed by the way the hospital staff worked together, noting that the mood was not tense, despite the circumstances. He said the staff members might have kept their focus in part because of a Bible that the hospital's chief of staff immediately set on a table in the middle of the hospital's emergency command center.

## Diocesan requirements for reporting ministry-related sexual abuse of a minor

1. Any individual having actual knowledge of or reasonable cause to suspect an incident of ministry-related sexual abuse is to immediately report the incident to the Chancery.

2. The Chancery will then report the incident to the proper civil authorities. The individual reporting the incident to the Chancery will be notified of the particulars regarding

the Chancery's filing of the incident with civil authorities.

3. This reporting requirement is not intended to supersede the right of an individual to make a report to civil authority, but is to ensure proper, complete and timely reporting. Should an individual choose to make a report to civil authority, a report is still to be made to the Chancery.

## USCCB says critics are 'distorting' 1962 Vatican sex abuse document

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The U.S. bishops' communications office has sharply repudiated claims that a 1962 Vatican instruction on church procedures to deal with priests accused of using the confessional for sexual solicitation provided a "ground plan" for a church cover-up of sexual abuse.

"Those making this claim ... are taking the document entirely out of context and therefore distorting it completely," said the statement issued late Aug. 7 by the Department of Communications of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

"The 1962 document has no bearing on civil law. It does not forbid the civil reporting of civil crimes," the

statement added.

Cardinal Francis E. George of Chicago, in a statement posted Aug. 7 on his archdiocesan Web site, said, "It is hard to understand how anyone could construe this severely punitive document (against priests who commit the crime of solicitation) as a 'blueprint for deception' by Pope John XXIII."

The document in question, titled "Crimen Solicitationis" ("the crime of solicitation"), was issued March 16, 1962, by the Vatican's Holy Office, now called the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, under the signature of Cardinal Alfredo Ottaviani. It was replaced by a new instruction issued in 2001.

## Diocesan planner

### ALBEMARLE VICARIATE

ALBEMARLE — The Forever Young Club of Our Lady of the Annunciation Church, 416 N. 2nd St., will have a meeting and a covered dish lunch in the Family Life Center at 10 a.m. For details, call Gerald Maiden (704) 982-5261.

### ASHEVILLE VICARIATE

ARDEN — St. Barnabas Church, 109 Crescent Hill Dr., will host "Triumph of the Cross: Building Catholic Families, Building a Catholic Culture" Sept. 12 and 13. Presenters of the 16 workshops will address topics such as "Taking your toddlers to Mass," "Prayer," and "Living your faith in the home." For registration information, please call St. Barnabas Church at (828) 684-6098 or Saints and Scholars Bookshop at (828) 251-5558.

### CHARLOTTE VICARIATE

CHARLOTTE — The bereavement support group will meet 6-7:30 p.m. and every first Monday in the Family Room at St. Gabriel Church, 3016 Providence Rd. This support group is for anyone who has experienced the loss of a loved one. For details, call Ruth Posey, CSS counselor, at (704) 370-3238.

CHARLOTTE — Christians in Career Transition is a ministry of St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons

Pkwy., devoted to helping people in career crises. The meetings take place on the first and third Mondays of every month 7-9 p.m. in the conference room. For more information, call Rev. Mr. Jim Hamrlik at (704) 576-0456.

CHARLOTTE — The cancer support group for survivors, family and friends meets every first Tuesday at 7 p.m. at St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy. For more information, call Marilyn Borrelli at (704) 542-2283.

CHARLOTTE — The Happy Timers of St. Ann Church, 3635 Park Rd., will have a meeting with a luncheon and program at 1 p.m. in the parish activity center. All adults age 55 and older are welcome. For more information about the senior group or bingo Thursdays at 7 p.m., call Charles Nesto at (704) 398-0879.

CHARLOTTE — St. Peter Church, 507 S. Tryon St., will offer *Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament* on the first Friday of every month following the 12:10 p.m. Mass and Benediction at 1:30 p.m.

CHARLOTTE — The St. Maximilian Kolbe Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order will be gathering today at 2 p.m. at Our Lady of Consolation Church, 2301 Statesville Ave. Those interested in learning more about the SFO and the Franciscan way of life are invited to attend. For more information, call Skyler Harvey, SFO, at (704) 545-9133.

## THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

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FROM THE VATICAN

# Pope expresses sadness at bombing of U.N. HQ in Baghdad

*Pope John Paul II prays peace will prevail*

CASTEL GANDOLFO, Italy — Pope John Paul II expressed his deep sadness at the bombing of a U.N. headquarters in Baghdad that left at least 14 people dead and dozens badly injured.

The top U.N. official in Iraq, Sergio Vieira de Mello, was among those killed in the explosion Aug. 19, which ripped through a hotel used by the United Nations. Authorities said a suicide bomber rammed a truck into the complex.

A telegram sent in the pope's name to Kofi Annan, U.N. secretary-general, said the pontiff was deeply saddened to learn of the bomb attack and the loss of life.

The telegram said the pope "offers

fervent prayers for the victims and asks almighty God to comfort those who mourn at this time of tragic loss."

"Imploring all involved in perpetrating acts of violence to abandon the ways of hatred, His Holiness prays that the path of reconciliation will prevail and that the people of Iraq will know a new era of peace, justice and social harmony," said the telegram, signed by Cardinal Angelo Sodano, Vatican secretary of state.

The pope expressed his personal condolences to Annan, to all those working for the United Nations and to the families and friends of the victims.

U.S. and U.N. officials said the blast would not break the will of the international community.

CHARLOTTE — A *Landings* group is being formed at St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy., for anyone interested in returning to the church. Landings is a safe harbor for returning Catholics to explore their faith and their future with the church. For more information, please contact Barbara and Gene Viviano at (704) 846-5561 before September 8th.

## GASTONIA VICARIATE

BELMONT — Queen of Apostles Church, 503 North Main St., will host its *Annual Fall Festival* Sept. 27 9 a.m.-10 p.m. Activities will include a craft fair, games, bingo and casino. There will be lots of family fun, food, fellowship and community building. For details, please call the church office at (704) 825-9600.

## GREENSBORO VICARIATE

GREENSBORO - St. Paul the Apostle in Greensboro is hosting a "*Septemberfest*" Sept. 1 5-7:30 p.m. A German meal of bratwurst, sauerkraut, and German potato salad or a hotdog, beans, and potato chip meal will be served. There will be face painting for children and lots of fun for all. Meal tickets can be purchased at the parish office and after all Masses prior to the event.

GREENSBORO — *Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians*, Guilford County, Division I, an Irish-Catholic social, cultural and charitable inter-parish group meet the first Thursday of each month at 7:30 PM at St. Pius X Church, Kloster Center, N. Elm St and Cornwallis Dr. All Catholic women of Irish birth or descent are welcome. RSVP to Elaine McHale, president, 292-1118 to attend the meeting.

## HICKORY VICARIATE

HICKORY — St. Aloysius Church, 921 Second St. NE, holds a *charismatic Mass* the first Thursday of each month in Sebastian Chapel at 7 p.m. For further information, contact Joan Moran (828)-327-0487.

## SALISBURY VICARIATE

SALISBURY — Sacred Heart Church, 128 N. Fulton St., will celebrate a *charismatic*

and healing Mass Sept. 7 at 4 p.m. Prayer and worship with prayer teams will be available at 3 p.m., and a potluck dinner will follow the Mass. Father John Putnam, pastor, will be the celebrant. For further information, call Bill Owens at (704) 639-9837.

## SMOKY MOUNTAIN VICARIATE

SYLVA — St. Mary Church, 22 Bartlett St., offers *Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament* the first Saturday of every month following the 9 a.m. Mass until 3 p.m. For information, call (828) 586-9496.

FRANKLIN — The *Women's Guild* of St. Francis of Assisi Church, 299 Maple St., meets the second Monday of each month at 7 p.m. in the Family Life Center. The meetings feature guest speakers and special events periodically. For more information, call Claire Barnable at (828) 369-1565.

## WINSTON-SALEM VICARIATE

CLEMMONS — Father John Putnam, pastor of Sacred Heart Church, will celebrate a *charismatic and healing Mass* Sept. 1 at 7:30 p.m. at Holy Family Church, 4820 Kinnamon Rd. The sacrament of reconciliation will be given at 7 p.m., and the laying on of hands will take place after Mass. For further information, call the church office at (336) 778-0600 Jim Passero at (336) 998-7503.

WINSTON-SALEM — *The Healing Companions* is a grief support group for the bereaved that meets the first and third Thursdays of the month in Conference Room B at St. Leo the Great Church, 335 Springdale Ave. For further details, call Joanne Parcel at (336) 924-9478.

Please submit notices of parish events for the Diocesan Planner at least 15 days prior to the event date in writing to Karen A. Evans at [kaevans@charlottediocese.org](mailto:kaevans@charlottediocese.org) or fax to (704) 370-3382.

# Pope says Assumption is sign of hope, faith in eternal life

CASTEL GANDOLFO, Italy (CNS) — Catholics celebrate the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary into heaven with the hope and faith that they, too, are destined to spend eternity with God, Pope John Paul II said.

With several thousand visitors crowded into the courtyard of his summer residence south of Rome, Pope John Paul recited the Angelus and offered his blessing on the Aug. 15 feast of the Assumption. The scene

was one of constant waving — fans, hats and papers moving in an attempt to keep people cool as they waited for the pope's midday appearance, then being waved with more vigor in greeting the pope.

In the middle of August, "for many a time of rest and summer vacation," the feast day is a day "of hope and light" because it shows all men and women "the destiny of glory that awaits them," he said.

## Date set for bishop ordination

*Committee to plan celebration details*

By KEVIN E. MURRAY

EDITOR

CHARLOTTE — The date is set for the ordination of the Diocese of Charlotte's next bishop.

Bishop-designate Peter J. Jugis, in communication with Archbishop Gabriel Montalvo, the apostolic nuncio, has selected the ordination to take place Friday, Oct. 24.

"A committee is being formed to facilitate the many details — time, place and rituals — that are central to this historic moment in the Diocese of Charlotte," said Father Frank O'Rourke, pastor of Our Lady of Grace Church in Greensboro.

Bishop-designate Jugis has asked Father O'Rourke to coordinate all of the festivities relating to the ordination.

"I'm privileged to be asked to help our new bishop and our diocese celebrate this significant event in the life of the Diocese of Charlotte," said Father O'Rourke. "My efforts and those of the committee are to be as inclusive as possible in celebrating the diversity and unity of all of us in the diocese."

*The Catholic News & Herald* will be the primary vehicle for updating people of the diocese on all that is happening surrounding the bishop's installation, said Father O'Rourke.

"Music plays an important part in any liturgical celebration," said Father

O'Rourke. "We are fortunate to have Dr. Larry Stratemeyer, director of music at St. Patrick Cathedral in Charlotte, to oversee music for the celebration."

"It is an honor and a privilege for me to prepare the music for the ordination of Bishop-designate Jugis," said Stratemeyer. "Singers from all around the diocese are encouraged to join a choir formed for the occasion. Many churches have already telephoned to express their eagerness to participate."

"During this time of preparation, like our bishop designate, we too should be prayerful, open to the Spirit and optimistic of the future, knowing the Holy Spirit guides the church," said Father O'Rourke.

"There are beautiful prayers offered to us for the liturgy of the church in the Sacramentary," he said. "Among them is a beautiful prayer for the bishop."

*God, eternal shepherd, you tend your church in many ways and rule with love.*

*Help your chosen servant Peter as pastor for Christ to watch over your flock.*

*Help him to be a faithful teacher, a wise administrator and a holy priest.*

## THIS MONTH IN — 1997

### BREAKING GROUND

Bishop William G. Curlin; Dr. Michael Skube, superintendent; and Sister Mona Wingert, assistant superintendent, shoveled topsoil during a groundbreaking ceremony at Holy Trinity Middle School in Charlotte Aug. 15, 1997. The three-story expansion project at the school added 23 classrooms, two of which were computer labs. Holy Trinity Middle School, in its third year of existence in 1997, opened its doors to 850 students for the new school year.

## DID YOU KNOW?

### CATHOLIC SCHOOLS RULE

The National Catholic Education Association is the largest private professional association in the world. Founded in 1904, the association's institutional, individual and affiliate members represent 200,000 Catholic educators serving 7.6 million students enrolled in elementary and secondary schools, colleges and universities, religious education programs and seminaries throughout the United States.



# Permanent diaconate gears up for prison ministry

By REV. MR. GERALD POTKAY  
CORRESPONDENT

MORGANTON — The permanent deacons of the diocese will have an additional responsibility this coming year.

As part of their diocesan requirement of three continuing education days annually, 50 deacons and their wives gathered at St. Charles Borromeo Church for a session Aug. 2.

"This is a very important continuing education session because it kicks off our prison ministry program, which has been in the works now for over a year," said Rev. Mr. Ben Wenning, coordinator of the permanent diaconate.

The training is fulfilling a commitment made to Msgr. Mauricio W. West, diocesan administrator, to have the permanent diaconate take charge of prison ministry by July of this year.

"This is not to say that the permanent deacons are eliminating the lay people from the program; in fact, those in current prison ministry are sorely needed," said Rev. Mr. Wenning. "Where appropriate and possible, the permanent deacons will take care of prison ministry of Catholic inmates and their families. This will ensure continuity in coverage as the program develops."

Many deacons are enthusiastic about the new program.

"This is not just to help inmates, but also for the families of inmates," said Rev. Mr. Carlos Medina, of St. Patrick Cathedral in Charlotte.

Rev. Mr. James Johnson of St. Charles Borromeo has been appointed diocesan coordinator for prison ministry.

Bill Matevie, the diocesan liaison to the North Carolina Division of Prisons, conducted the training session, which began with a celebration of the Eucharist by Father Kenneth Whittington, pastor of St. Charles Borromeo.

## PRISON PROFILES

"Prison is not the safest place in the world. Prison life is not easy," said Fa-

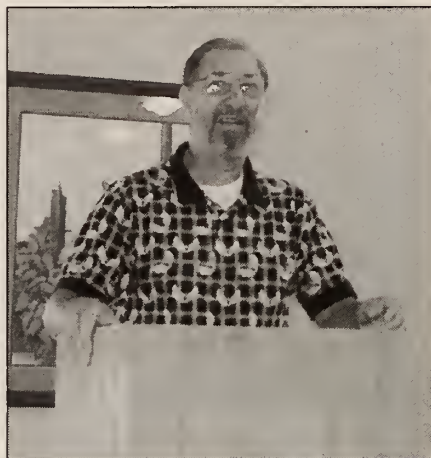


PHOTO BY REV. MR. GERALD POTKAY

Rev. Mr. James Johnson, permanent deacon at St. Charles Borromeo Church in Morganton, speaks on prison ministry to the deacons at their continuing education session held at the church Aug. 2. Rev. Mr. Johnson was appointed diocesan coordinator for prison ministry.

ther Whittington to the deacons.

But prison ministry is an "opportunity to go meet people — people who are open to abuse because of where they are," he said. "These are people who are more open to hearing the word of God than those outside prison walls."

Inmates are craving for personal contact, said Father Whittington. "Many want rosaries in prison, for the rosary is used as a badge that says: 'I belong to a group.' As you start off your prison ministry, bring yourself as a human being. Let the message you carry say: 'I'm offering to be your friend.'"

Matevie, a convert to Catholicism, started work in the prison system over 18 years ago. He began in prison ministry with the Cursillo movement in South Carolina in 1985. Then-Bishop John F. Donoghue placed him in charge of diocesan prison ministry in 1991. And in 1995, then-Bishop William G. Curlin appointed him as prison chaplain for the

diocese. Matevie took over the chaplaincy at the Mecklenburg County jail that houses approximately 1,900 inmates with a cross section of adult males, females and juveniles.

"When dealing with prisoners, remember that their average age is less than 25, 94 percent of whom are male," Matevie told the deacons. "Most come from broken homes and are accustomed to doing whatever they wanted to do. Most have had about nine years of schooling and are usually at a grade five level."

These inmates are separated from family and friends and in a prison population that views itself as "losers." "Most feel they are victims of injustice who find it hard to take responsibility for their own imprisonment," said Matevie. "Therefore, they will vocally express their resentment against society."

Matevie stressed the need for the deacons to follow the rules of the institution, and he ran through a list of guidelines for prospective chaplains to follow.

"Above all, tell them what you are all about, but not at the expense of their beliefs," he said.

## CORPORAL MERCY

Many of the deacons are already involved in prison ministry.

Rev. Mr. Andrew Cilone, of Immaculate Conception Church in Forest City, contributes his time to three different prisons (Shelly, Spinoch and Marion) and is on call several days a week. He performs Communion services, does one-on-one sessions with inmates in an ecumenical atmosphere and conducts

Hispanic ministry.

"(Prison ministry) is really one of the works of corporal mercy," said Betty Steinkamp, wife of Rev. Mr. Ronald Steinkamp of St. Pius X Church in Greensboro. "Ron and I went to the maximum security prison in Buckingham County, Va., every week for two years bringing the inmates scripture, prayer, Communion and fellowship."

Rev. Mr. George McMahon, of St. Joseph Church in Newton, has worked in prison ministry for seven years. He stressed to the group that, as ministers, the deacons should try to discuss and relate everything to everyday life; that the ministers must see where the prisoners are at in their lives and situations.

"Since each person is unique, therefore bring out those things that are important to him or her," he said. "Bring out the importance of free will, as well as the joys that are possible even in prison."

Contact Rev. Mr. Gerald Potkay by calling (336) 427-8218 or e-mail [gpotkay@triad.rr.com](mailto:gpotkay@triad.rr.com).

## DID YOU KNOW?

There are currently 33 minimum to medium security state correctional institutions and 46 county jail facilities located in the 46-county Diocese of Charlotte. Avery/Mitchell Correctional Institute in Courier is the largest state facility with 856 beds, while Mecklenburg County jail is the largest county jail with 2,666 beds.

## The Bishop Begley Conference On Appalachia

Friday, October 10 – Sunday, October 12, 2003

Lake Junaluska Conference & Retreat Center, Lake Junaluska, NC



Sponsored by: The Office of Justice and Peace  
Catholic Social Services, Diocese of Charlotte

An opportunity to learn about Appalachian socio-economic issues and diocesan responses to those issues as well as explore Catholic Campaign for Human Development funded grassroots development efforts. Conference proceedings will take place within a framework of examining the impact of the two pastoral letters of the US Bishops of Appalachia, *This Land is Home to Me* and *At Home in the Web of Life*, and assessing the significance of these letters in the present day and in the future.

## Conference Plenary Sessions and Main Speakers



**Bishop Walter F. Sullivan**  
(Diocese of Richmond)  
"Raising a New Consciousness of What it Means to be Church – The U.S. Bishops are Called to Respond to Powerlessness and Oppression in Appalachia"



**Sister Beth Davies, CND**  
"Seeking to Understand the Struggles and Joys of Appalachia – The Key Elements of *This Land is Home to Me*"



**Joseph Holland, Ph.D.**  
"Exploring Connections, Seeking Sustainability – The Key Elements of *At Home in the Web of Life*"



**Fr. John Rausch, Glenmary**  
"Appalachia in a Globalized Economy – The Key Issues Facing Appalachia Today and in the Future"

For information and registration, visit [www.cssnc.org/justicepeace](http://www.cssnc.org/justicepeace) or contact:

The Office of Justice and Peace, CSS  
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# Working as one for many

## Parish council retreat teaches many skills

BY JOANITA M. NELLENBACH  
CORRESPONDENT

TRYON — The parish council was told they had \$3,252 to spend on 13 projects totaling \$6,025.

What should be kept: \$2,500 to expand community space, \$350 to bury Judas Iscariot, \$600 for the community kitchen, \$25 to bail Paul out of prison — or for something else?

In this exercise during a retreat Aug. 1 in its parish center, the St. John the Baptist Church pastoral council learned consensus-seeking. Rather than voting for or against an issue, in consensus-seeking agreement comes from group discussion. When all agree, or can at least live with a choice, consensus has been reached.

The retreat focused on communication skills, working together, planning and evaluating, and embracing diversity so all talents can be used for mutual good.

"We are called to be stewards of everything there is," said the retreat's facilitator, Paul Kotlowski, the diocesan director of youth ministry. "For us as Catholic Christians, there should never be an us/them mentality. Jesus Christ died on the cross so that we might all be one."

Kotlowski said. "I say that at the very onset of this day, because that (oneness in diversity) should be our focus.... In order for us to embrace this living Word, we have to be people who embrace that diversity."

"We didn't seem to be working together very well," Father Dean E. Cesa, St. John the Baptist's pastor, said of the reason for the retreat. "We felt we needed to build more of a team, have a more open environment. The parish council is supposed to advise me. If they're not open to expressing their opinions, I don't get a complete picture so I can make a good decision."

Nelson said the parish council retreat



PHOTOS BY JOANITA M. NELLENBACH

Parish council members of St. John the Baptist Church in Tryon engage in a problem-solving exercise during a retreat Aug. 1. Clockwise are Matt Lynch (back to camera), Jean Eckert, Shari Houle, Jon Wilson, Jim McClintock and Rochelle Tyson. Behind them, seminarian Oscar Tamayo (left), council member Barbara Miles and Father Dean Cesa observe the discussion.

is the first step in its quest to serve St. John the Baptist Church more effectively. The second step, which is already under way, is to call others forward to lead.

"We're all supposed to have a hand in this," Nelson said. "Some are leaders, some are doers. We need to discern each others' gifts and then find the courage to seek those gifts in other people, to call them forward to be a living body of Christ in this community."

For the consensus exercise, the participants imagined themselves as the apostles, shortly after Jesus' resurrection, striving to wisely use the proceeds community members had realized from selling their possessions.

After ranking the projects, the

group members voted on which ones to keep or eliminate. Voting is easier, Kotlowski said, but "Consensus-seeking leads us to look for solutions we never thought of before."

Father Cesa pointed out that in consensus-seeking, all voices can be heard.

The group decided space-expansion was the least important project and put it aside. Kotlowski said a parish council would seldom have to decide on 13 projects in one meeting; the important thing was learning the consensus process.

"I think some excellent points were made; it confirmed what Father Dean said about hearing everyone's voice," Kotlowski said.

Nelson said. "I feel this is critical for this council because we are going to be hearing from people who are not part of this council."

"I want to affirm this group because what I saw was a very free exchange by people who were very comfortable with each other," Kotlowski said. "Kudos to

every member of the group for hanging in there and affirming the process."

Contact Correspondent Joanita M. Nellenbach by calling (828) 627-9209 or e-mail [jnell@dnet.net](mailto:jnell@dnet.net).

### WANT MORE INFORMATION?

If you would like more information on pastoral councils or pastoral council training, contact George Cobb at (704) 370-3328 or e-mail [gkcobb@charlottediocese.org](mailto:gkcobb@charlottediocese.org).

## The Catholic Church on pastoral councils

Decree on the Apostolate of the Laity: "In diocese, as far as possible, councils should be set up to assist the Church's apostolic work, .... These councils can take care of the mutual coordinating of the various lay associations and undertakings, the autonomy and particular nature of each remaining untouched. Such councils should be found too, if possible, at parochial, interparochial, interdiocesan level, and also on the national and international plane."

Decree on the Bishops' Pastoral Office in the Church: councils "... will be to investigate and to weigh matters which bear on pastoral activity, and to formulate practical conclusions regarding them."

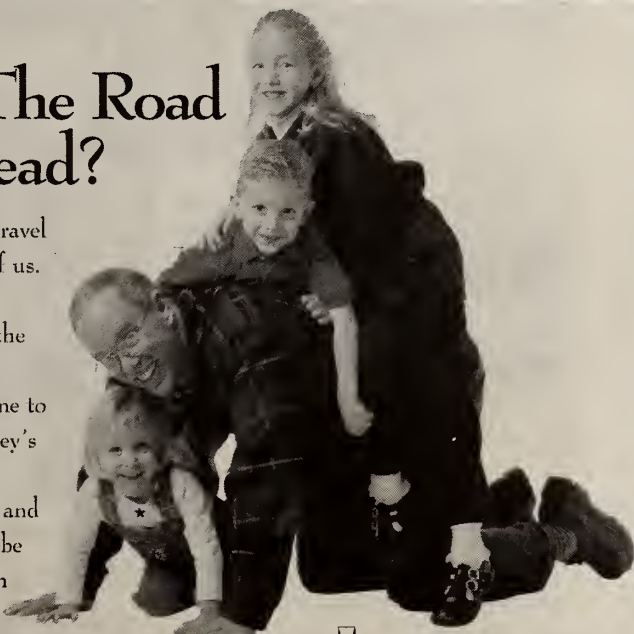
Code of Canon Law: After the diocesan bishop has listened to the presbyteral council and if he judges it opportune, a pastoral council is to be established in each parish; the pastor presides over it, and through it the Christian faithful along with those who share in the pastoral care of the parish in virtue of their office give their help in fostering pastoral activity.

Charlotte Diocesan Synod of 1987: "... Pastoral Councils have an important role in developing and sustaining the life and activity of the Church community.(p46)" "We have become, or rather more accurately we are in the process of becoming, a 'conciliar' church. This means that through a series of councils the total church come together to share gifts, ideas, responsibilities, and leadership.(p.48)"

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## MAKING A DIFFERENCE

# MACS, TRACS Foundations help raise funds for Catholic schools

*Lives of students are enhanced through the MACS and TRACS Education Foundations.*

## TRACS

The Triad Area Catholic Schools (TRACS) Education Foundation continues its success in raising funds in support of quality faith-based Catholic education in the Triad.

Since the Foundation's inception in 2001, contributions have increased by 330 percent and the Foundation's Annual Giving Campaign for the 2002-2003 school year raised over \$295,000 — 120 percent of the \$244,000 goal.

The Foundation's funded projects for the 2002-2003 school year included: faculty and staff bonuses; technology upgrades and teacher computer training; and school renovations such as a new media center and improving playgrounds and gymnasiums.

Another focus of the Foundation is tuition assistance through the Piedmont Triad Scholarship Fund, which provided over \$40,000 in tuition assistance during the 2002-2003 school year.

"Tuition assistance is vitally important to Our Lady of Mercy School families," said Sandra McMonagle, principal. "Most families plan their budgets to give up 'extras' so that their children can receive a Catholic education. We at OLM are so grateful to the Piedmont Triad Scholarship Fund and to the families at OLM who make tuition assistance possible."

Last year, 30 families at Our Lady of Mercy School in Winston-Salem received tuition assistance — 13 of them from the Piedmont Triad Scholarship Fund. The fund also helped 22 families



Students return to classes at St. Leo School in Winston-Salem (above left) and St. Patrick School in Charlotte (above right) Aug. 18.



COURTESY PHOTOS

at nearby St. Leo School.

"The scholarship and TRACS funding enable these families to provide a Catholic education at a Catholic School," said Georgette Schraeder, St. Leo School's principal. "The parents applied for the scholarship because they are convinced of the importance of Catholic education."

"The support demonstrated during the Foundation's Annual Giving Campaign during 2002-2003 gives strength to our belief in one Catholic community," said Jennifer Smith, diocesan development director for Catholic schools. "The vision, dedication and enthusiasm of the board members, donors and friends of the Foundation were critical to the success of the campaign."

## MACS

The Mecklenburg Area Catholic Schools (MACS) Education Foundation's mission is to enrich children's education by raising supplemental funds for quality programs not covered by tuition within the MACS system. The diocesan superintendent, MACS principals and teachers choose the programs funded by the Foundation.

The Foundation reached its \$315,000 goal for the 2002-2003 school year.

"We were right on goal," said Jay Bryson, Foundation chairman. "That money goes into the MACS budget for technology, band and supplemental tuition assistance for families who may have hit hard times."

The Foundation has also funded Life Skills at Holy Trinity Middle School in Charlotte.

"(The program) also helps students how to cope with emotions and channel

frustrations that they deal with at that age. It's been very successful at Holy Trinity and the Foundation plans to continue funding it."

The MACS Foundation Board, comprised of parents, alumni, school representatives and friends of the Catholic school community, is responsible for the Annual Giving Campaign and for funding the MACS Education Foundation Endowment.

The Annual Giving Campaign, conducted during each school year, generates 20 percent of its revenue from corporate matching gifts.

The Foundation will kick-off the Annual Giving Campaign in October 2003. The campaign funds the Endowment and projects identified by the MACS schools, including religious education; tuition assistance; technology; instrumental music; educational excellence grants; and professional development program for MACS teachers.

The program is a partnership with the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, in which a professor will teach courses to help MACS teachers achieve accreditation, such as for master's degrees.

"It will be completely free for the teachers," said Bryson.

"With support from all MACS families and friends, the Foundation will continue to provide resources that help Mecklenburg Area Catholic Schools ensure academic and spiritual excellence for all students," said Smith.

*For more information on the MACS and TRACS Education Foundations, contact Jennifer Smith at (704) 370-3303.*

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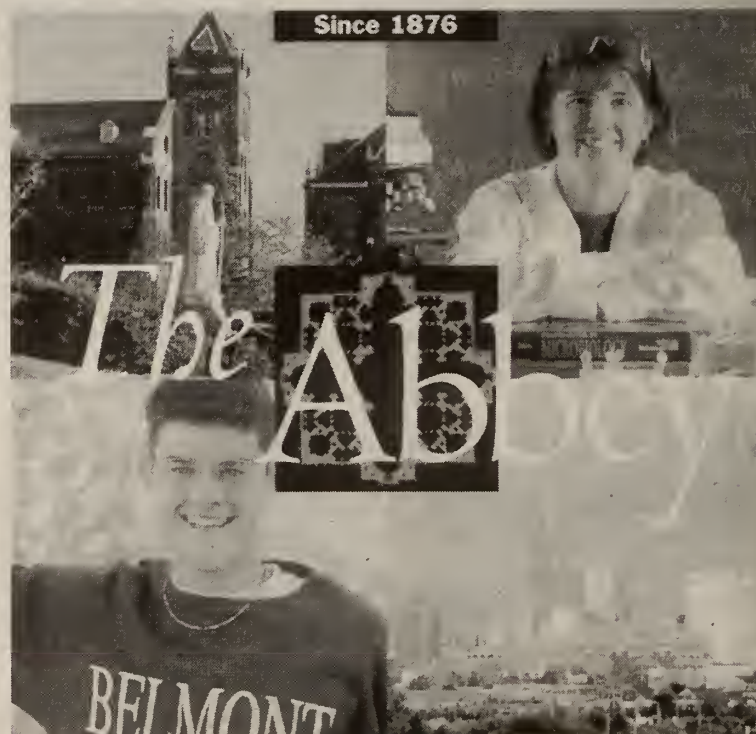
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# Students return to school



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

Students in Mrs. Miller's fifth grade class listen attentively on the first day of school at St. Matthew School.

## SCHOOLS, from page 1

### A GROWING COMMUNITY

The National Catholic Educational Association (NCEA) reports 47 new Catholic schools opened last year, while 140 schools were consolidated or closed. Although Catholic school enrollment declined by 2.4 percent during the past school year, 40 percent of all Catholic schools nationwide have waiting lists for admission.

"The demand is clearly there," said Michael Guerra, NCEA president. "New schools and major renovations to existing schools are underway throughout the country."

"The Charlotte Diocese is proud of our increase in enrollment, opening of a new school and no school closings on the horizon," said Cherry. "The Catholic community continues to grow in the diocese and that is reflected in a growing interest in our Catholic schools."

Faculty and students at All Saints School in Charlotte have moved down Elm Street to the new St. Matthew School. Also, St. Mark School in Huntersville opened.

Dr. Walt Przygocki, former assistant principal at Holy Trinity Middle School, is now over St. Mark School, a 77,000 square-foot kindergarten-through-sixth-grade facility that leads Mecklenburg Area Catholic Schools (MACS) expansion into northern Mecklenburg County.

The school seats almost 500 students. Plans are in development to create seventh- and eighth-grade classes over the next two years, allowing for an 800-student capacity.

All Saints School had one of the largest Catholic school enrollments in the state, so there are big expectations for the new St. Matthew School and principal Kevin O'Herron.

"As we move from All Saints, we intend to continue the wonderful traditions but, being on a parish campus, we have opportunities to form new relationships and traditions," said O'Herron.

The new school also boasts 25 core classrooms, music and art rooms, and additional counseling and learning support space.

"Everyone's excited, especially the students, to be a part of this first year at St. Matthew School," said O'Herron.

### CATHOLIC EDUCATION

The mission of Catholic schools in the Diocese of Charlotte "propose to create an environment in which the teachings of Jesus are promoted and proclaimed as the basis of values they teach and uphold," as stated on the diocesan Web site.

"It's faith-based education with Christ at its center," said O'Herron. Plus, "There's a greater sense of community and being a part of each child's education."

"As we enter the 100th year of our church and over 60 years at our school, we continue to offer our students a strong academic program centered in a Christian environment," said Joe Puceta, principal of St. Michael School in Gastonia.

"Catholic schools are a unique setting within which the educational mission of the diocese is implemented," said Father James Hawker, education vicar and pastor of St. Luke Church in Mint Hill.

"How blessed we are to have these graced environments of learning and living within which children are invited to know Jesus while cultivating their minds and hearts, talents and skills," he said.

### OTHER CHANGES

Former principal Betsy DesNoyer retired from All Saints School to teach religion at Charlotte Catholic High School, which bid farewell to Principal Augustinian Father James Cassidy in June.

Principal Gerald Healy, who previously headed Holy Trinity Middle School in Charlotte, has taken Father Cassidy's role leading the 1,000-plus students at Charlotte Catholic. Carole Breerwood has taken over as principal of Holy Trinity's 900-plus students.

Dr. Veronica Berreen retired as principal of Asheville Catholic School after 35 years to move to Florida with her family. Virginia Hutton of Miami was selected to head the pre-kindergarten through eighth-grade school, the only Catholic school in the Asheville area.

Ned Forney has left his principal post at Immaculate Heart of Mary School in High Point to relocate with his family to Charleston, S.C. Bob Wehde from Washington has taken over as principal of the 56-year-old school that is home to over 230 students.

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# Hitting the books again

*Campus ministry director takes role as a student*

By KAREN A. EVANS  
STAFF WRITER

CHARLOTTE — After six years as director of campus ministry for the Diocese of Charlotte, Colleen McDermott has decided to confine herself to one campus in particular — this time as a student.

McDermott recently resigned her position as director of campus ministry to pursue a doctorate degree in sociology with an emphasis in religion at the University of Georgia.

"Wherever there is mission church, and (Charlotte) is a place that defines it, people respond to the needs (of a mission area)," McDermott said. "I know I'm going to another mission place, so I hope to find that again."

During her time in the Diocese of Charlotte, she said she was amazed by who was called to different ministries, how the church responds to need.

McDermott said she is proud of the work she did to expand the campus ministry program, from 10 campuses to 23.

The campus and young adult ministries reach out to Catholics ages 18-40.

"It's an important time in people's lives, because it's when they make a commitment to how they're going to live, especially how they're going to live their faith," said McDermott. "It's critical to be present on this journey with young people."

According to McDermott, ministry at institutions of higher education puts the church at the intersection of faith and reason.

She said those institutions are called upon to answer: "What are your values as an institution? How do you communicate society's values? How do we talk about ethics? How do we form community?"

At universities where local churches have withdrawn from campus ministry, those institutions have lost an important component of their tradition of helping young people shape themselves as citizens and as believers, according to McDermott.

Therefore, McDermott said, it is essential that Catholic dioceses have a presence



PHOTO BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

Colleen McDermott at her diocesan good-bye gathering Aug. 5.

at universities in order to be a part of helping young people form their beliefs and values.

"I'm in awe of how incredibly different people are, and yet how it all fits together to form this wonderful community," she said.

In fall of 2002, McDermott was elected as the vice-president of National Catholic Young Adult Ministry Association, one of five national organizations that received a two million dollar Lilly Endowment Inc. grant to examine models for excellence in pastoral leadership.

A key issue is examining at how leaders have been nurtured since the Second Vatican Council concluded, so that people will continue come into leadership and into community, McDermott said.

After the completion of the five-year program, McDermott said she plans to teach or continue her research. Prior to working with the college campus ministers, McDermott taught at Charlotte Catholic High School for a year.

"I'm open to what God calls me to do," she said.

Mary Wright, campus minister at University of North Carolina at Charlotte has assumed the duties of director of campus ministry on a part-time basis.

## 'A MIND AT A TIME'

# Workshop provides perspectives on learning, teaching

By SUSAN DEGUZMAN  
CORRESPONDENT

WINSTON-SALEM — Each year, teachers are challenged to teach 15, 20, maybe even 30 or more completely different children in each class.

Two St. Leo School teachers returned to their classrooms Aug. 18 with new insights on how to more effectively teach their diverse students.

Fifth-grade teacher Beth Newton and resource teacher Linda Fatale attended a summer workshop entitled "Schools Attuned — All Kinds of Minds," designed by Dr. Mel Levine, professor of pediatrics at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Medical School. The workshop is based on his book, "A Mind at a Time."

"The workshop gave us in-depth information as to how to really read children," said Newton. "And the best part was that we were given lots of specific strategies in order to work with them. I have two binders full of information, and I will return for a 10-hour practicum in the fall."

Derived from recent research on the brain — which has blossomed in the last 10 years, according to Principal Georgette Schraeder — Levine believes each child is an individual with a unique neurological makeup and way of learning. Levine categorizes eight neurodevelopmental constructs, as he calls them, or ways in which the brain

works. Some of these constructs include spatial ordering, memory and language.

Workshop presenters explained these constructs at length and provided teachers with tools to analyze students, particularly those who display difficulty learning via more standard teaching methods.

"From a Catholic perspective, Levine's philosophy fits in with our philosophy — we are each unique in God's creation," said Schraeder.

Fatale, who was highly impressed with the program, agreed.

"The thing I admire about Dr. Levine is that he does see everyone as unique," she said. "He says in a lot of his films (viewed at the workshop) that everyone has been given gifts and if we can help children tap into their strengths, they will be more likely to reach their full potential that God has given them."

A grant from the diocesan Foundation enabled the teachers to attend the 35-hour workshop. Fatale and Newton, in conjunction with St. Leo School guidance counselor Teri Hardy, plan to share what they have learned with the rest of the faculty.

Levine is the founder of the All Kinds of Minds Institute and is the director for the Center for Development and Learning in Chapel Hill. He is a Rhodes Scholar and graduate of Harvard Medical School.

"I highly recommend this program to other teachers and to parents," said Newton.

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# New principals steer future

PRINCIPALS, from page 1

stepped up from assistant principal at Holy Trinity Catholic Middle School (HTCMS) in Charlotte to principal at the new St. Mark School in Huntersville. Carole Breerwood, former dean of students at HTCMS, replaced Gerald Healy as principal. Healy was named principal of Charlotte Catholic High School.

Ginny Hutton, principal of Asheville Catholic School, and Bob Wehde, principal of Immaculate Heart of Mary School in High Point, previously presided over schools in Miami and Washington state, respectively.

## CAROLE BREERWOOD

*Holy Trinity Catholic Middle School*

Breerwood grew up in New Orleans and earned her bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of New Orleans.

Breerwood cited her seventh-grade English teacher as her inspiration. "I can still hear those grammar rules in my head," she said.

As principal, "I want to maintain the traditions and heritage of Catholic education that Gerald Healy developed," said Breerwood.

"Most middle school students only

care about what their friends think, and most of their friends don't think," she said. "You have just 'got to love them' to stay involved with this age group. We are fortunate to be able to share in just a short portion of their life."

## GERALD HEALY

*Charlotte Catholic High School*

New York native Healy graduated from Belmont Abbey College and received his master's degree from University of North Carolina at Charlotte.

The advantages of a Catholic education are "the ability to pray and worship and to talk about values and to be able to deal with issues that wouldn't be allowed in a public setting," Healy said.

"I learned at an early age the ability to laugh, especially at myself," he said. "I have learned never to take myself too seriously and always treat people with respect and always try to help those who need help. These are gifts from my parents and those who have influenced my life."

"I hope to build on the wonderful spirit of this community and to tell the good news regarding this community," said Healy.

## GINNY HUTTON

*Asheville Catholic School*

Hutton is the "the pure product" of

Catholic education and has worked in Catholic schools her entire career.

"I am truly impressed by and amazed by (Asheville Catholic teachers') love, dedication, experience and their strong academic backgrounds," she said.

"We have tremendous support and involvement of the parents," Hutton said. "They bring a wealth of gifts, talents, enthusiasm and joy."

## KEVIN O'HERRON

*St. Matthew Catholic School*

O'Herron grew up in Rochester, N.Y., where he completed his bachelor's degree at St. John Fisher College. After moving to Charlotte, he earned a master of school administration degree from University of North Carolina at Charlotte.

"I hope to continue what we did well (at All Saints) and start new traditions that will make St. Matthew a special place," he said.

"Catholic Schools are unique because our faith is intertwined in everything that we do," said O'Herron. "The way we teach, the way we guide, and the way we help to build a child's confidence and esteem all flow from our faith-based belief in every child's inherent value. Each child has special gifts that come from God."

## WALT PRZYGOCKI

*St. Mark Catholic School*

Przygocki earned a bachelor's degree in history from Belmont Abbey College and a master's degree in educational administration and a doctorate in education leadership from University of

North Carolina at Charlotte.

"We have wonderful students here at St. Mark School," he said. "That's been the real joy this week — to see the halls fill up with 470 students who are excited to be here."

"Our teachers have made our school a wonderful and welcome environment," he said.

"The foundation for an excellent Catholic school is in place, and we're looking forward to growing over the next two years until we offer kindergarten through eighth grades," said Przygocki.

## BOB WEHDE

*Immaculate Heart of Mary School*

Wehde's extensive education includes a bachelor's degree from Northwest Missouri State University, a master's degree from Idaho State University and an educational specialist doctorate from University of Idaho.

"The Vatican document 'The Catholic School' speaks loud and clear," said Wehde. "If all who are responsible for the Catholic school would never lose sight of their mission and the apostolic value of their teaching ... they themselves, moreover, would most surely be filled with a deep conviction, joy and spirit of sacrifice, in the knowledge that they are offering immeasurable young people the opportunity of growing in faith, of accepting and living its precious principals of truth, charity and hope."

Read more about diocesan principals on [www.charlottediocese.org/catholicnews.html](http://www.charlottediocese.org/catholicnews.html).

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# 'Show Them We Care'

## Upcoming collection to benefit priests' retirements

CHARLOTTE — Members of the Diocese of Charlotte will have the opportunity to show they care about the priests who have faithfully served the Diocese of Charlotte.

The annual Priests' Retirement and Benefits Collection will be taken up in every parish the weekend of Sept. 6-7.

The collection helps provide monthly benefits for the 26 retired diocesan priests, including Bishop William G. Curlin, bishop emeritus.

Msgr. Joseph Showfety, the diocese's first chancellor, spent 47 years in priestly ministry before retiring in June of last year.

"(The priesthood) is a gift given to us by the divine Lord. He chooses us; we don't choose him," said Msgr. Showfety in a July 2002 interview.

Msgr. Showfety recalled a lot of traveling during the diocese's early years. "You basically lived in your car," he said. "You were on your own for three to four days a week, which was a good experience."

Msgr. Joseph Kerin, who also served as chancellor for seven years, retired in June of this year after 46 years in the priesthood. Among his fondest memories, he said, are seeing others grow in their faith.

"I've enjoyed every minute of it ... I have been blessed by God in my work," he said.

Contributions also help provide for future retirements of the 80 diocesan priests currently involved in active ministry, as well as the retirement funds of the 51 religious order priests serving in the diocese. One-third of the amount collected will be split among the pension funds of the represented religious orders.

"I have been privileged to serve as parochial vicar, deacon or seminarian under many of our retired priests," said Bishop-designate Peter J. Jugis. "Others have served as pastor in my own home parish during my childhood and youth. They are all very dear to me."

The campaign's goal is to collect \$924,427 — \$598,927 to fund the di-

ocesan priests' retirement and benefits plan; \$308,000 to support the retirement funds of religious order priests currently serving in our diocese; and \$17,500 to cover campaign expenses.

Each parish is assessed three percent of their annual offertory collection to raise funds needed to support the Priests' Retirement and Benefits Collection. In most parishes, that amount is one-and-a-half times the regular Sunday offertory.

Proportionate contributions on the weekend of Sept. 6-7 will help parishes pay the assessment.

### Diocese of Charlotte retired priests

Msgr. Richard Allen  
 Father James Cahill  
 Father Francis M. Cintula  
 Father Thomas Clements  
 Father Francis Connolly  
 Bishop William G. Curlin  
 Father Aloysius D'Silva  
 Father Vincent Erb  
 Father Patrick Gavigan  
 Father Raymond Hourihan  
 Father Joseph Kelleher  
 Msgr. Joseph Kerin  
 Father Conrad Kimbrough  
 Msgr. Anthony Kovacic  
 Father Andrew Latsko  
 Father Bernard Manley  
 Father Richard McCue  
 Father Gabriel Meehan  
 Msgr. William Pharr  
 Father Charles Reese  
 Msgr. Joseph Showfety  
 Father James Solari  
 Father Edward Sullivan  
 Father John Tuller  
 Msgr. Thomas Walsh  
 Father Joseph Waters

# Reflections of priestly

Our retired diocesan priests were posed a series of questions/statements regarding retirement. Here are their responses.

### Bishop Emeritus William G. Curlin

**Most memorable day:** My most memorable day as a priest was the day I accepted my first pastorate of a poor inner city parish in Washington, D.C.

**Most challenging assignment:** My most challenging assignment was being pastor, vocations director, chaplain for a house for AIDS victims and Vicar for the Permanent Diaconate all at the same time.

**If I knew then what I know now ...** I would again joyfully accept God's call.

**Advice to a newly ordained priest:** My advice to a newly ordained priest is keep your heart centered on Jesus.

**My favorite pasttime ...** is now helping in parishes.

**The thing I miss the most ...** is serving as a pastor.

**I still look forward to ...** serving God's people.

### Msgr. Joseph Kerin

**Most challenging assignment:** My most difficult and challenging assignment, due to the difference in language and culture, was my 2 1/2 years in Mexico. However, it had the greatest effect on my priesthood.

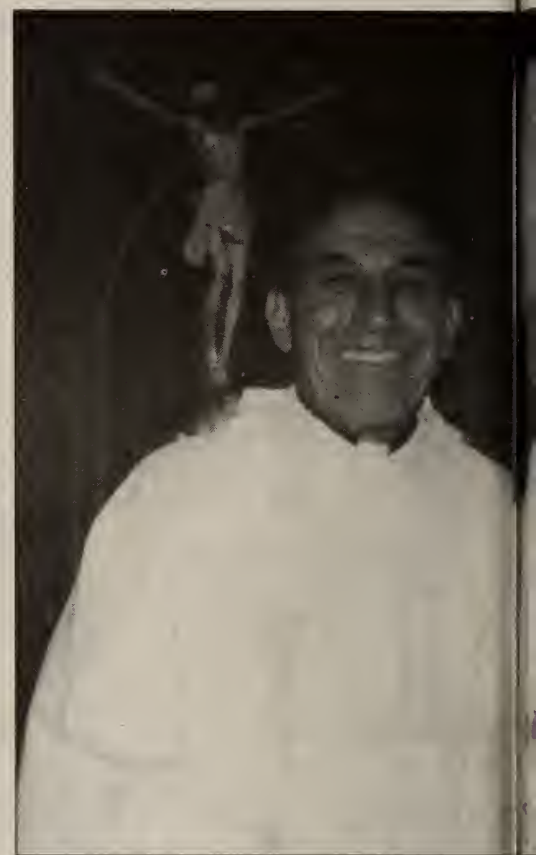
**If I knew then what I know now ...** I would not change a thing. I thoroughly enjoyed every assignment I had.

**Advice to a newly ordained priest:** If I could tell the newly ordained priests one thing, I would say, "Be open to God because you will be amazed at how you will grow into your priesthood."

**What will you miss the most?** I am not looking to miss anything. This (retirement) will be just another phase of my priesthood.

### Msgr. Joseph Showfety

**Most memorable day:** The most memorable event of my priesthood is my ordination day and first solemn



From left: Msgr. Joseph Showfety and Bishop

Mass.

**Most challenging assignment:** My most challenging assignment was serving as the first Chancellor of the diocese because the work was all new with a new diocese.

**If I knew then what I know now ...** I would make the same choice. Although the attitudes of the laity are so different.

**Advice to a newly ordained priest:** I would tell a newly ordained priest appreciate your priesthood and be faithful to daily Mass, divine office and personal prayer.

**My favorite pasttime ...** is now playing golf!

**The thing I miss the most ...** is regular public Masses.

**I still look forward to ...** enjoying even more the priesthood.

### Fr. Joseph Waters

**Most memorable day:** The most memorable day as a priest is the day

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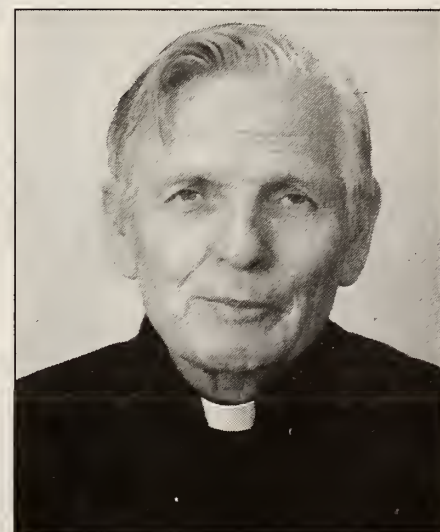
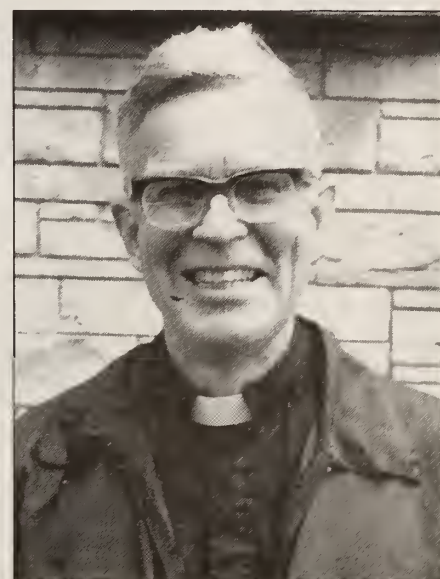
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# service



STAFF PHOTOS

William G. Curlin; Msgr. Joseph Kerin; Msgr. William Pharr; and Father Joseph Waters.

Bishop Vincent S. Waters permitted me to work in Latin America.

**Most challenging assignment:** My most challenging assignment was working with teachers of Natural Family Planning. The mentality of people was and perhaps, still is, that it requires too much effort. Unfortunately, we are a pill-oriented society.

**If I knew then what I know now ...** I would have been even more grateful, and would have encouraged others to learn a second language. It broadens one's appreciation for other cultures. It also helps one to serve a great need of today — that of being of

service to the people of God of other cultures.

**Advice to a newly ordained priest:** I would tell a newly ordained priest, "Persevere in prayer. Be faithful in all that you do."

**My favorite pasttime ...** is engaging in outdoor activities such as walking, biking and playing golf.

**The thing I miss the most ...** is the goodness and faith of so many people who give so much of their time to the welfare of their parish, as well as serving in community activities.

**I still look forward to ...** being of

assistance, especially helping in Hispanic communities.

**Msgr. William Pharr**

**Most memorable day:** The most memorable event of my priesthood was the dedication of St. Vincent de Paul Church in Charlotte.

**Most challenging assignment:** My most challenging assignment was serving as pastor of Our Lady of Consolation in Charlotte because the attempt to save the last black Catholic school was without success.

**If I knew then what I know now ...** I would even more aggressively support the agenda of Pope John Paul II.

**Advice to a newly ordained priest:** I would tell a newly ordained priest to keep your relationship with Christ as your first priority.

**My favorite pasttime ...** now is travel and exploration.

**The thing I miss the most ...** is interaction with parish staff and parishioners.

**I still look forward to ...** traveling, listening, learning and assisting.

## Catholic organizations back Oct. 26 as 'Priesthood Sunday'

CHICAGO (CNS) — The National Federation of Priests' Councils, joined by several national Catholic organizations, has asked U.S. Catholics to observe Oct. 26 as "Priesthood Sunday."

The NFPC called on parishes across the country to take that occasion "to celebrate the gifts of priesthood in service to the Catholic community."

Others supporting the initiative include the National Association for Lay Ministry, Serra International, Pastoral Summit, the Raskob Foundation and The Official Catholic Directory.

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## FIRST BAPTISM



PHOTO BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

Auxiliary Bishop Michael F. Burbidge of Philadelphia baptizes infant Michael while parents Brian and Theresa Burbidge look on at St. Thomas Aquinas Church in Charlotte July 26.

## First step to salvation

BAPTISM, from page 1

According to "Catechism of the Catholic Church," the practice of baptizing children is in accord with the role of parents as "nurturers of the life that God has entrusted to them."

"The Church and the parents would deny a child the priceless grace of becoming a child of God were they not to confer Baptism shortly after birth. ... Entry into Christian life gives access to true freedom."

Baptism is one of the three sacraments of initiation (along with confirmation and the Eucharist) that "lay the foundations of every Christian life," according to the catechism. "The faithful are born anew by Baptism, strengthened by the sacrament of Confirmation, and receive in the Eucharist the food of eternal life ..."

"...By the gift of his body and

blood, Christ increases within us the gift of his Spirit, already poured out in baptism and bestowed as a 'seal' in the sacrament of confirmation," wrote Pope John Paul II in his encyclical letter "Ecclesia de Eucharistia," issued April 17, Holy Thursday, of this year.

Because of this journey from baptism to reception of the Eucharist, the baptismal font and its location reflect the Christian's journey through the waters of baptism to the altar, according to "Built of Living Stones: Art, Architecture, and Worship," guidelines of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Without baptism, there can be no salvation, states the catechism.

"Baptism is birth into new life in Christ," it reads. "In accordance with the Lord's will, it is necessary for salvation, as in the Church herself, which we enter by Baptism."

The "fruit of Baptism," as the catechism calls it, includes the forgiveness

of original sin and all personal sins, birth into the new life by which "man becomes an adoptive son of the Father, a member of Christ and a temple of the Holy Spirit. By this very fact, the person baptized is incorporated into the Church, the Body of Christ and made a sharer in the priesthood of Christ."

The catechism also declares baptism as the first and chief sacrament of the forgiveness of sins. "It unites us to Christ, who died and rose, and gives us the Holy Spirit."

### INFANT BAPTISM

"Baptism is a great event," said Pope John Paul II, to children visiting the Vatican Dec. 13, 1994. "In the church's first centuries, when baptism was received mostly by grown-ups, the ceremony ended with receiving the Eucharist, and was as solemn as first holy Communion is today. Later on, when baptism began to be given mainly to newborn babies ... the more solemn celebration was transferred to the moment of first holy Communion."

According to the catechism, "the practice of infant baptism is an immemorial tradition of the Church," with explicit testimony to this practice from the second century on.

"The sheer gratuitousness of the grace of salvation is particularly manifest in infant Baptism," the document states. "Born with a fallen human nature and tainted by original sin, children also have need of the new birth in Baptism to be freed from the power of darkness and brought into the realm of the freedom of the children of God, to which all men are called."

### THE RITE OF BAPTISM

The rite of baptism varies among the churches. The Catholic sacrament can be conferred either by immersion in water or by the pouring of water in Catholic. Some churches accept only immersion or only pouring. Some use aspersion (sprinkling), in which the minister lets water trickle from his hand onto the head of the person being baptized.

According to the catechism, "the essential rite of Baptism consists in

immersing the candidate in water or pouring water on his head, while pronouncing the invocation of the Most Holy Trinity: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit."

While baptisms are mostly administered by priests, the catechism says in cases of necessity, any person can baptize provided that he or she has "the intention of doing that which the Church does" and provided that he or she "pours water on the candidate's head while saying: 'I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.'"

Once a person is baptized, they cannot be baptized a second time.

"Baptism imprints on the soul an indelible spiritual sign, the character, which consecrates the baptized person for Christian worship," states the catechism. "Because of the character Baptism cannot be repeated."

Even if the person baptized is not reared in the faith or does not live up to the obligations of the faith, or even expressly denounces it, baptism indicates a "permanent membership" in Christ and the church that "cannot be nullified or completely lost," according to the U.S. bishops Committee on the Liturgy.

However, canon law requires a reasonable expectation that the baptized child will be brought up in the Catholic religion. Father Robert D. Duggan, pastor of St. Rose of Lima Church in Gaithersburg, Md., believes there should be high standards for baptism for all involved - the child, parents and godparents.

"Jesus called people into a discipleship that required commitment," he said during a 1991 conference regarding baptizing infant children of "marginal" Catholics. "An institution that fails to ask for or demand commitment from its members is doomed."

The Burbidges are committed, and plan to enrich Michael's life with Jesus.

"Faith helps define you and how you relate to others," said Theresa. "We believe in God and want to have a lasting relationship with him."

Contact Editor Kevin E. Murray by calling (704) 370-3334 or e-mail [kemurray@charlottediocese.org](mailto:kemurray@charlottediocese.org).

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BEFORE THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

## Priest to speak on importance of perpetual adoration

GREENSBORO — Father Victor Warkulwiz, a Missionary of the Blessed Sacrament, will speak about perpetual adoration at Masses in the Triad Sept. 13-14.

Perpetual adoration is the practice of exposing the Eucharist 24 hours a day in a chapel for continuous adoration by community members. Communities that establish perpetual adoration are expected to assure there are always some members present in prayer before the exposed Blessed Sacrament.

Father Warkulwiz is national director of the Apostolate for Perpetual Adoration. He has helped establish a number of perpetual adoration chapels around the country.

"Pope Paul VI said that Eucharistic adoration cultivates in the soul 'a social love by which the common good is given preference over the good of the individual,'" wrote Father Warkulwiz in "Eucharistic Adoration: The Way to End Abortion."

Pope John Paul II has encouraged perpetual adoration since beginning his pontificate. He established an adoration chapel at St. Peter's Basilica in Rome on Dec. 2, 1981, and encouraged other churches to do the same.

The pope noted: "Our essential commitment in life is to grow spiritually in the climate of the Holy Eucha-

rist. ... The best, the surest and the most effective way of establishing peace on the face of the earth is through the great power of perpetual adoration of the Blessed Sacrament."

So far, more than 1,000 adoration chapels have been established in the United States. And, some 80 percent of those chapels have people volunteering for an hourly shift each week to ensure that the chapels are open 24 hours a day.

In his encyclical letter "Ecclesia de Eucharistia," the pope said: "In many places, adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is also an important daily practice and becomes an inexhaustible source of holiness. The devout participation of the faithful in the eucharistic procession on the solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ is a grace from the Lord which yearly brings joy to those who take part in it."

### WANT TO GO?

Father Victor Warkulwiz will speak at St. Benedict's 5 p.m. Mass, Sept. 13. He will speak at St. Paul the Apostle's 8 a.m., Our Lady of Grace's 10 a.m. and Christ the King's 4 p.m. Mass Sept. 14. For more information, contact Edna Carrigan, coordinator for perpetual adoration at Maryfield nursing home, at (336) 324-4366.

## Two cultures, one parish



COURTESY PHOTO

Sacred Heart Church in Salisbury celebrated a Hispanic/Anglo festival Aug. 10, to bring the two cultures of the parish together.

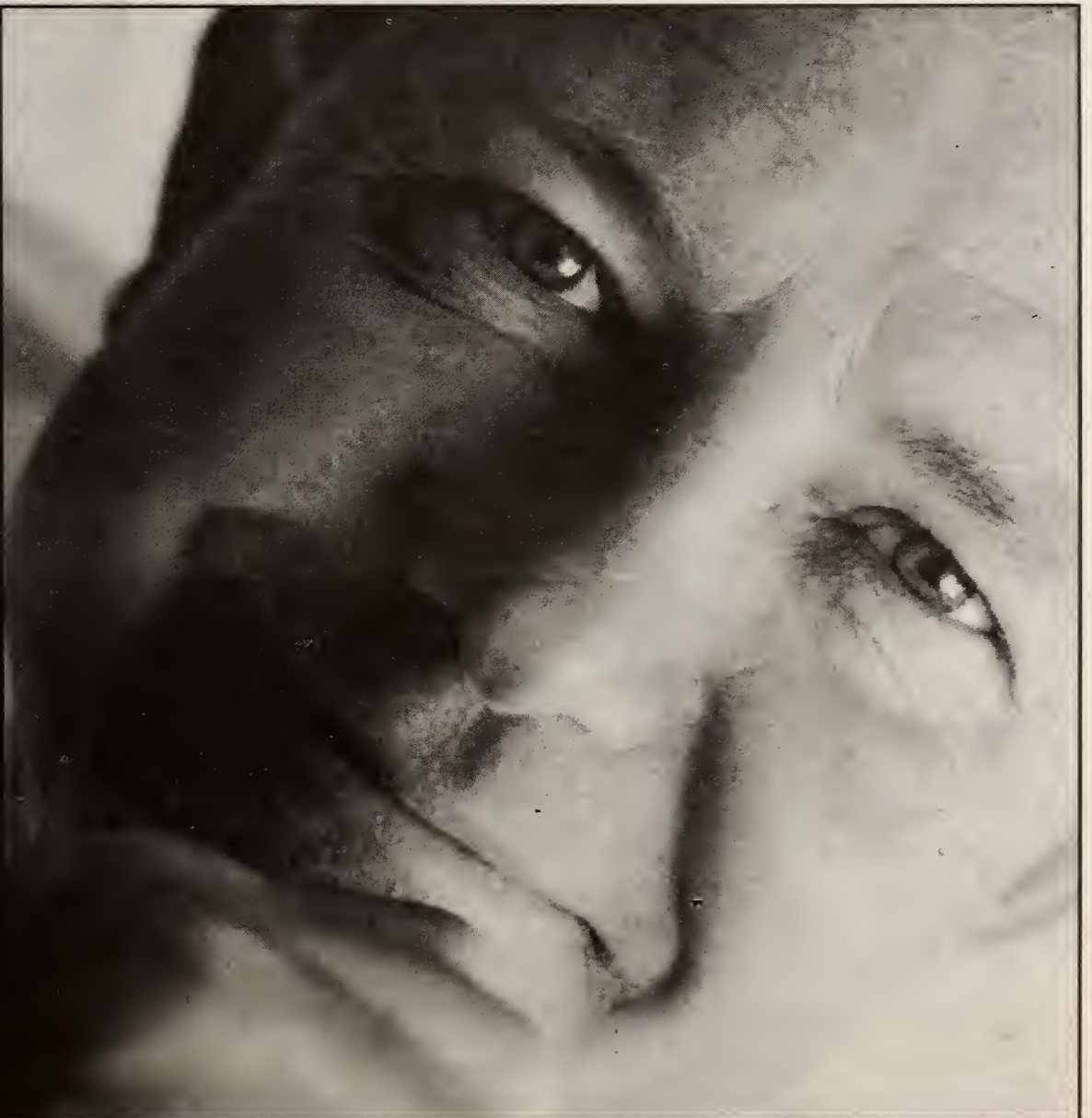
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# Culture Watch

A roundup of Scripture, readings, films and more.

## Books of faith and hope for the future

REVIEWED BY MITCH FINLEY  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

True stories about other people's faith experiences can nourish our own faith in ways nothing else can. The lives of the saints serve this purpose, to be sure. But true stories about ordinary nonsaints — regular people just like us — have a similar power.

That's what is so special about "Amazing Grace for Those Who Suffer: 10 Life-Changing Stories of Hope and Healing." It's a book so packed with truth and goodness that it will keep you up past your bedtime.

Jeff Cavins, host of the television show "Life on the Rock," and Matthew Pinto, co-founder of a Catholic apologetics magazine called Envoy, collected 10 stories from people who experienced suffering, sorrow and anguish beyond anything most of us will ever know. The key to each story is the ways in which those who suffered were able to draw upon their Catholic faith to find the meaning and hope to move on. In some instances, you may not agree with a particular theological opinion, but those are easily overlooked in the context of the whole story.

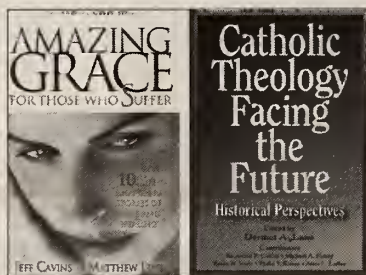
At times faith can seem to be little more than an opinion or point of view. Faith only becomes real when it makes a real difference in how we live our actual, real, everyday lives, and it becomes particularly real when it makes a difference in how we deal with extreme circumstances.

Cavins and Pinto close their book with this observation: "How did these people respond to adversity? They joined their will to the will of Christ. They entrusted their hearts to their heavenly Father. They went to Mass as often as possible, the best place to 'offer up' their pain. They spent time in prayer by adoring the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. They took the focus off themselves and remained faithful in their earthly affairs. They kept an eternal perspective, understanding that one day there will be no more pain or tears, and the fruit of their suffering will have had eternal benefits."

"Amazing Grace for Those Who Suffer" is a book packed with wisdom and encouragement for anyone who would bring a deeper faith to life's suffering and adversity. Don't miss it.

Meanwhile, the average educated reader will find plenty to stimulate an adult faith in "Catholic Theology Facing the Future: Historical Perspectives." This is a book for anyone who would be better informed about what Catholic theologians are talking about these days and where theological discussions may be headed in the future.

The insightful, creative chapters in this slim volume began as talks at a symposium celebrating the 40th anniversary of a summer theology pro-



gram at St. Michael's College in Winooski, Vt. The editor, Dermot A. Lane, is president of the Mater Dei Institute of Education at Dublin City University, in Ireland, and he has many years of involvement with the program at St. Michael's.

The book is captivating reading guaranteed to put no one to sleep. The nine short chapters include: "What Has Happened to the Study of the New Testament in the Last 40 Years?" (Father Raymond F. Collins); "A Spirited Community Encounters Christ: Liturgical and Sacramental Theology and Practice" (Msgr. Kevin W. Irwin); and "Let's Begin — Not End — Theology With Hope" (Dermot A. Lane).

*Finley is the author of more than 30 books for Catholic readers, including "For Men Only: Strategies for Living Catholic" and, most recently, "It's Not the Same Without You: Coming Home to the Catholic Church."*

## WORD TO LIFE

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS: AUG. 24, 2003

### Aug. 24, Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

Cycle B Readings:

- 1) Joshua 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b  
Psalm 34:2-3, 16-21
- 2) Ephesians 5:21-32
- 3) Gospel: John 6:60-69

By BEVERLY CORZINE  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

I grew up an only child. For the first seven years of my life, we lived in a community in southeastern Colorado that was one step away from a ghost town. My world was the world of adults, a vivid imagination, dogs, cats and horses. Friends and relatives came to visit but infrequently brought children.

With no worrisome siblings to lead me astray in this nearly deserted corner of the world, one might think that I would never have gotten in trouble for making impetuous decisions. Unfortunately, I was forever making childhood decisions that led to trouble with my mother. Towering above me, she would say, "Beverly, why did you do that?"

This was the killer question for me. In my young mind the only answer that seemed truthful, appropriate or logical was my standard reply, "Because I wanted to." However, I knew when I

uttered those fatal words the palm of my mother's hand was going to smack the seat of my pants, allegedly to help me perfect my decision-making processes and perhaps to inspire more suitable responses in the future.

The ability to choose and make the right choices marks every stage of our life's journey from childish misdeeds to matters of life and death as we grow older. In today's readings from the Hebrew Scriptures and the Gospel of John we see adults making choices that will reach beyond life on this earth.

In the first reading Joshua, the tribal leaders and the people stand on the threshold of making a decision that will shape their lives for generations to come. Joshua speaks first and announces to everyone that he and his household will serve God. The people then have their own decision to make: Whom will they serve? Remembering how God has saved them in the past, they make a solemn vow that will shape their future and their relationship with God and each other.

The drama of decision making fills the reading from John. Some disciples of Jesus decide that they can no longer follow him. What he has to say is too controversial, too difficult to understand or to accept. Jesus asks the Twelve if they will also leave him. Peter, noted for his impetuosity, asks the wisest question of all: "Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life."

## WEEKLY SCRIPTURE

### SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF AUGUST 24 - AUGUST 30

**Sunday (Twenty-first Sunday of Ordinary Time)**, Joshua 24:1-2, 15-18, Ephesians 5:21-32, John 6:60-69; **Monday (St. Louis, St. Joseph Calasanzi)**, 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5, 8-10, Matthew 23:13-22; **Tuesday**, 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8, Matthew 23:23-26; **Wednesday (St. Monica)**, 1 Thessalonians 2:9-13, Matthew 23:27-32; **Thursday (St. Augustine)**, 1 Thessalonians 3:7-13, Matthew 24:42-51; **Friday (Martyrdom of John the Baptist)**, 1 Thessalonians 4:1-8, Mark 6:17-29; **Saturday**, 1 Thessalonians 4:9-11, Matthew 25:14-30

### SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF AUGUST 31 - SEPTEMBER 6

**Sunday (Twenty-second Sunday of Ordinary Time)**, Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-8, James 1:17-18, 21-22, 27; Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23; **Monday**, 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18, Luke 4:16-30; **Tuesday**, 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6, 9-11, Luke 4:31-37; **Wednesday (St. Gregory the Great)**, Colossians 1:1-8, Luke 4:38-44; **Thursday**, Colossians 1:9-14, Luke 5:1-11; **Friday**, Colossians 1:15-20, Luke 5:33-39; **Saturday**, Colossians 1:21-23, Luke 6:1-5



**Please pray for the following priests who died during the month of September**

Rev. Edward F. O'Doherty	1998
Rev. James King	1978
Rev. Msgr. Hugh Dolan	1981
Rev. John J. Murray	1997
Rev. Msgr. Arthur Duncan	2002
Rev. Msgr. Thomas Burke	2001

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'Uptown Girls' ruined by downtown subplot



CNS PHOTO FROM MGM

Brittany Murphy and Dakota Fanning star in the comic film "Uptown Girls," a contemporary fairy tale about a spoiled rock-'n'-roll heiress who must take a job as a nanny for a precocious 8-year-old, only to find out they are both in need of emotional healing. The film imparts a positive message about the importance of family and the effects parental neglect has on children's lives, but a lewd subplot adds an unnecessary sexual element that proves its cotton-candy facade is grossly misleading. Several implied sexual encounters and dark emotional themes, as well as sporadic crude language. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-III — adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13 — parents are strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.

Statement on Nondiscriminatory Policy

Schools in the Diocese of Charlotte, mindful of their primary mission as effective instruments of the education ministry of the Church, and witnesses to the love of Christ for all persons, shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, age, physical condition, national or ethnic origin in the employment of personnel and administration of the educational policies, admission policies, loan programs, athletic and other school-administered programs.

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- Asheville Catholic School, Asheville
- Bishop McGuinness High School, Kernersville
- Immaculata School, Hendersonville
- Immaculate Heart of Mary School, High Point
- Our Lady of Grace School, Greensboro
- Our Lady of Mercy School, Winston-Salem
- Sacred Heart School, Salisbury
- St. Leo School, Winston-Salem
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## AROUND THE DIOCESE

## Catholic campus minister joins Council of Churches board

*Hairston will represent diocese*

GREENSBORO — Alberta Hairston, Catholic campus minister at Bennett College and N.C. A&T State University, recently joined the executive board of the North Carolina Council of Churches.

Hairston joined the board during a May meeting at Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Greensboro, at which new officers and executive board members were elected, distinguished service awards were presented and the changing

roles of women in faith communities were explored.

The N.C. Council of Churches is made of 15 Christian denominations. Hairston will represent the Diocese of Charlotte on the board. Two other new board members are Rev. Steve Gergard of Winston-Salem, representing the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America — North Carolina Synod; and Rev. David W.A. Taylor of Cary, representing the Presbytery of Coastal Carolina.

## Diocesan classifieds

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### PRAYERS & PETITIONS

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Thank you, St. Jude, for prayers answered and received. JDN & AMN

## Diocesan priest selected for advancement in U.S. Navy

NORFOLK, Va. — Father Michael Stephen Klepacki, a Navy lieutenant commander and acting command chaplain for Naval Station Norfolk, was selected July 22 for the rank of commander.

Father Klepacki, a native of Asheboro, served in the Diocese of Charlotte for 10 years.

He was born June 13, 1950. In 1968, he graduated from Notre Dame International High School in Rome, Italy. He subsequently graduated from Belmont Abbey College in Belmont in 1972 with a bachelor's degree in psychology. Father Klepacki then obtained a master's degree in theology from Mount Saint Mary's Seminary in Emmitsburg, Md. in 1978.

He was ordained for the Diocese of Charlotte in 1978. He then became associate pastor for Our Lady of Grace Church in Greensboro from 1978 to 1980. He served as pastor of St. Lucien Church in Spruce Pine, St. Patricia Church in Linville and Sacred Heart Mission in Burnsville until 1981, then pastor at St. Joan of Arc Church in Asheville from 1981 until 1988.

Father Klepacki decided to join the U.S. Navy and was commissioned a lieutenant in 1988. His first tour of



Father Michael Klepacki

duty was at Naval Air Station Memphis, Tenn. from 1988 to 1991. Father Klepacki's other duty assignments include Marine Aircraft Group 12 in Iwakuni, Japan, 1991-1993; Naval Fleet Activity Sasebo, Japan, 1993-1995; 1st Battalion 2nd Marines, 2nd Marine Division, 1996-1997; and USS George Washington (CVN 73), 1997-2000.

In 2000, Father Klepacki transferred to Naval Station Norfolk.

Father Klepacki is the son of Lorene Klepacki, the late Lt. Cmdr. Henry Klepacki and the grandson of the late C.H. Wood.

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## University student learns from Holy Angels

By MARY MARSHALL  
CORRESPONDENT

**BELMONT** — Sometimes, best-laid plans are often altered and become treasures nestled along the path of one's journey.

Kate Distler realized this while completing a summer internship at Holy Angels in Belmont.

"It was one good experience after another," said the Notre Dame University sophomore. "It was the best summer of my life."

A native of Kansas City, Kan., Distler is an arts and letter pre-professional major with hopes of becoming a pediatrician. Her internship was part of the university's Center for Social Concerns that coordinates student volunteers. The center places 200 students nationwide, immersing them in communities far from their norm and placing them in service experiences that will have a lasting influence.

Distler chose Holy Angels as she anticipated working one-on-one with children and adults with mental disabilities. Instead, Distler spent the summer working alongside adult residents with Down Syndrome at Holy Angels' Cherubs Café and Candy Bouquet.

In the café, she helped residents bus and wait tables. She also served as a coach to help residents make bouquets. Though describing the work as challenging, Distler also found it rewarding.

"Although I didn't work with a lot of children, I don't feel like that affected my volunteer experience," said Distler. "I wouldn't change or trade any of the days I spent with the adults who have Down Syndrome. I not only had the opportunity to learn about them as individuals, but also was personally affected by each of their friendships."

"I relished evening outings with the residents and the special times I spent at the group home," she said.

Distler also learned a lot from the staff at Cherubs and Holy Angels.

"They introduced me to the man-



COURTESY PHOTO

University student and intern Kate Distler assists Holy Angels resident Robert with clean-up at Cherubs Candy Bouquet in Belmont.

agement side of a business, showed me how to motivate discouraged people and to address those who didn't always want to cooperate," she said.

Living at the convent with the Sisters of Mercy was a wonderful experience, said Distler.

"I anticipated quiet, sparse evenings and brought plenty of books, which I never read," she said. "Instead, I ate dinner with the Sisters of Mercy, sat with them at Mass on Sundays and played games and talked with them in the evenings. I discovered they were all very young-spirited."

Distler said the experience has energized her.

"I now look at my world from a completely new and exciting perspective," she said. "I shall always cherish the friendships I made with the group home residents, staff and sisters."

Looking back in her journal, each day Distler's entry read: "Today was somehow even better than the last."

## Globe-traveling student learns about poverty in N.C.

**CHARLOTTE** — It is faith that inspires 21-year-old Sarah Wisely to volunteer and work within local and global communities.

Wisely, a Belmont Abbey College student who has spent summers working with the impoverished in Romania, China and Mexico, completed this summer's internship working in Charlotte for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD), the anti-poverty program of the U.S. Catholic bishops.

"My parents have always been great in encouraging me to travel around the world and get involved in social justice," said Wisely.

Wisely, who will be a senior this year, majors in sociology, but also studies Catholic social teaching with a concentration on peace and justice studies. She is a recipient of Belmont Abbey College's Hintemeyer Scholarship (awarded for leadership, service and academics) and has served as a college liaison with several educational and advocacy related events that the diocesan Office of Justice and Peace has offered at the college.

Wisely chose to remain in Charlotte this summer to work with CCHD.

"I am hoping I will gain the skills to really understand the needs of people and what the Catholic Church can do to help," she said.

Wisely interned with the Office of Justice and Peace on tasks associated with the diocesan work of CCHD. Her primary task was working on a survey sent to all parishes in the diocese about social ministry and how the diocesan Office of Justice and Peace can provide parishes with better assistance and materials.

"In addition to the social ministry survey, Sarah was involved in the CCHD local grants process last spring," said Terri Jarina, CCHD diocesan director. "She read most of the grant applications and accompanied me on a couple of site visits. And Sarah offered insightful observations to the CCHD diocesan committee during the decision-making process."

"This internship is a way to tie to-



COURTESY PHOTO

College student and intern Sarah Wisely works with Terri Jarina, the Catholic Campaign Human Development director in Charlotte.

gether what I'm studying and my faith," said Wisely. "It also gives me some career opportunities."

Wisely will also participate in the Bishop Begley Conference on Appalachia in Lake Junaluska in October. The conference will explore CCHD-funded grassroots development efforts in Appalachia.

CCHD provided stipends for Wisely and others working at summer, fall and year-long internships to gain experience working with and on behalf of the poor in dioceses around the country.

### WANT MORE INFORMATION?

For more information about CCHD's internship program or to apply for a 2004 internship, visit their Web site at [www.usccb.org/cchd/youth.htm](http://www.usccb.org/cchd/youth.htm) or call (202) 541-3151.

To learn more about CCHD in the Diocese of Charlotte, contact Terri Jarina at (704) 370-3234 or [thjarina@charlottediocese.org](mailto:thjarina@charlottediocese.org).

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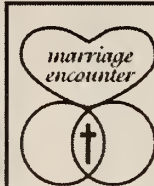
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# Perspectives

A collection of columns, editorials and viewpoints

## The good news of religion

*Despite biased media coverage, God's work prevails*

The coverage of religion these days by the secular media often portrays religion as a source of woe to both individual and society alike. We are exposed to an almost daily chorus of news items that expose the faults or criminal behavior of religious leaders. Daily we read articles or view on TV stories showing some person or group perverting religion to back their acts of violence; and

### Guest Column

JOE PURELLO  
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF  
JUSTICE & PEACE



if to say this good piece of religious news must be taken with a grain of salt, that the positive news is unusual and the negative the norm.

Those of us who find that our faith provides daily sustenance and life-long benefits wonder why the good news about religion is so thoroughly drowned out by the bad news. This imbalance in news reporting is real.

Earlier this summer, several religious journals (including *The Catholic News & Herald*) ran a news item reporting a study from the University of Rochester. This study reviewed a number of our nation's leading newspapers, and found that an exceptionally large percentage of stories on religion reported crimes and misdeeds, with far less coverage given to the good done by faith leaders and communities. The study reported that one leading paper had a 10-1 ratio of reporting bad deeds vs. good deeds in its religion-focused stories. It would be interesting to know how many newspapers found

this University of Rochester study newsworthy in itself to publish.

Certainly for Catholics, seeing their faith so often portrayed in such a negative light has been difficult. What can we do to bring balance to this current pattern of news reporting? We can share good stories about our faith with our local media. We can boast to others about the joy received by practicing our faith and convey our gratitude for the dedicated ministry of our pastors. We must recognize that in spite of these difficult times in the Church, much good occurs, far outweighing the bad. Millions of children and adults are educated in Catholic schools, while tens of millions of people receive assistance from Catholic charities and medical facilities every year. The Church remains a strong voice supporting justice and respect for human life.

Such religiously motivated activity and advocacy serve our society immensely, benefiting religious and non-religious alike. This is indeed good news we can be proud to know and share with others, whether or not the secular media feels inspired to do the same.

## Pope says through creation, Bible, God reveals his love for people

CASTEL GANDOLFO, Italy — Through the beauty of creation and through the Bible, God reveals his love for every human being, Pope John Paul II said.

The believer's response to God's revelation of love, the pope said, must be "prayers of praise to bless the Lord of life and liberty, existence and faith, creation and redemption."

At his Aug. 20 weekly general audience, held in the courtyard of his summer residence at Castel Gandolfo, the pope continued his long-running series on psalms and canticles used in the church's morning prayer.

Psalm 147, he said, calls on the faithful to praise the Lord for giving his people freedom, peace and security; for the gifts of nature; and for his gifts of revelation and the law, "which are a foundation for peace more solid than any walls."

The psalm celebrates "the election of Israel and its unique mission among the nations: to proclaim to the world the word of God," he said.

"Through Israel and, therefore, also through the Christian community — that is, the church — the word of God can resound throughout the world and

### The Pope Speaks

By CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE



become the norm and light of life for all peoples," the pope said.

The psalm also celebrates the creative action of God's word, the word that brought all life into being, keeps it alive and commands the seasons, he said.

"The Lord acts with his word not only in creation, but also in history," the pope said. "He reveals himself not only in the mute language of nature, but expresses himself explicitly through the Bible and his personal communication through the prophets and fully in his son."

"Admiring creation and perceiving the presence of God through the events of history lead to an encounter with the eternal Word who, in Christ, became the ultimate and full revelation of the Creator's saving plan," he said.



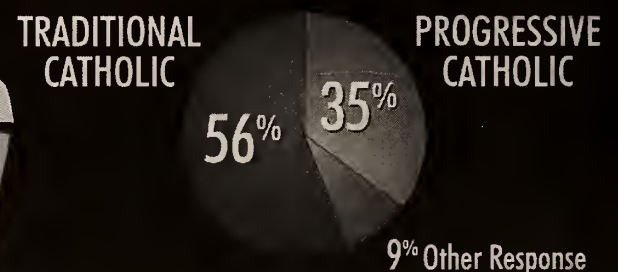
we are constantly reminded by the secular media that religious viewpoints and faith-based ethical statements are personal opinions, that should not be a basis for decisions made in the public square.

Reading all this negative news, an observer (unaware of all the good that religion provides to individuals, families and society) might wonder why it is that a majority of Americans identify themselves as members of religious groups, like and respect their pastors and religious leaders, and continue to contribute time, talent and treasure to their churches, synagogues, mosques and faith-based nonprofits.

This is not to say that scandals in the church, criminal behavior by clergy or the role of religious motives in some acts of violence are not newsworthy. Such stories are, unfortunately, very real and rightfully deserve coverage. These stories shock and sadden us. Such coverage of religion, however, frequently seems to be the only coverage of religion we receive. Even articles that start off saying something positive about religion or some religious personality often add some negative twist to the story, as

## Being Catholic

### How U.S. Catholics view themselves



### How U.S. adults view Catholics as a group



Source: Pew Research Center: June 24 to July 8 survey for "Religion and Politics: Contention and Consensus"

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# Transfiguration: A two-worlds dimension

*Mysterious event  
parallels 'out of this  
world' moments*

All of us have heard the expression "out of this world." Most probably we have used this idiom on some occasions. Someone says, "Tell me about your vacation." We might reply, "It was out of this world," and so we say about a great concert, a great picnic. Whatever is beyond the reach of our ordinary experience, we label it "out of this world." The transfiguration, celebrated this year Aug. 6, is one of those experiences.

Our Christian faith is not limited to this time and place and yet is lived in this time and place. Jesus, while out of this world with Moses and Elijah, is in this world with Peter, James and John. The transfigured Jesus belongs to heaven, yet this man from Nazareth walked with the apostles through the streets and fields of Palestine. Surely, Jesus was one of them until Peter blurted out the words "You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God."

The transfiguration is a one-time event; we don't know too much about it. All we know is the somewhat sketchy report of three eyewitnesses — Peter, James and John. One interesting point is that out of the four gospels writers, John is the only one who does not include this story and, ironically, he is the only one of the Magnificent Four who actually saw it. I don't have an explanation for this gap, except that John felt the words were inadequate to describe what really happened. We know that John was a man of

## Guest Column

FATHER JOHN  
AURILIA,  
OFM CAP



contemplation, while Peter a man of action and was quick to say: "It is good to be here..." Jesus replied: "Yes, indeed, but you cannot stay here, your journey is not over yet."

While transfiguration is a one-time event, transformation, which is directly connected, is a daily event. Transformations take place constantly in our lives. Change is the key. Abram (father in faith) is changed to Abraham (father of many nations). Saul of Tarsus, the pagan lawyer and persecutor of Christians, becomes St. Paul, the teacher, the preacher and the martyr. Augustine, the playboy of Carthage, becomes St. Augustine, the theologian, the philosopher, the doctor of the church and the greatest Christian writer.

There is a constant dychotomy in our existential journey: who we are and what we become. We may not even be aware of this slow but steady process of growing and transforming, of being and becoming. In this transformation process, God and you are involved. No transformation takes place without you, who may feel useless like a solid block of marble with no shape or form; in the hands and mind of the artist (God) you become the David or the Pieta. The forgotten seed or bulb in the darkness of the

cold soil during the long winter months becomes a beautiful flower in the spring. If nature is so powerful and beautiful in the transformation process, how much more powerful and beautiful are you in the hands of the greatest artist: God?

During this long process, we may wish to stop like Peter suggested: "It is good to be here ... let's stay here." Peter forgot that we are people on the go. Living and staying in the past is not Jesus' way and never will be. You heard the proverb: The past is a good place to visit, not a good place to stay. Do we really hear Jesus' message?

A preacher, thundering heavily on his supply of imagery to describe the day of the final judgment, said: "Thunder will bloom, rivers will overflow, flames will shoot down from the heavens and the earth will quake violently, darkness will fall over the world ..." A little boy in the congregation nudged his father and asked: "Daddy, do you think they will let the school out that day?"

I like to think of transfiguration and transformation as fountains of youth. No matter what age you are, everyday you are new and today is only the first day of the rest of your life. A dear old lady was not thinking in this fashion, when, in her terminal illness, approached the pastor and said, "Soon, I'll be rocking in the bosom of Moses." "No, dear," said the pastor, "the Bible says the bosom of Abraham." "At my age, you don't care too much whose bosom it is," smiled the lovely lady.

*Father Aurilia is pastor of Immaculate Conception Church in Hendersonville.*

# Catholic weddings outside of church

*Q. I am a Catholic, and a priest told me he could not perform our wedding in a gazebo. Catholic weddings must be performed indoors, he said. I'm surprised and confused. The pope said Mass in Shea Stadium in New York several years ago and regularly says Mass outdoors in Rome. And Jesus preached outdoors. So what difference does it make? God is everywhere. (New York)*

The general law of the church does require that a marriage between two Catholics, or between a Catholic and a baptized non-Catholic, be celebrated in a parish church (not just "indoors") unless the bishop specifically gives permission otherwise.

The reason is that churches, our buildings of prayer and worship, are sacred places where especially sacred events should take place. The sacramental marriage of two Christian people — two Catholics or a Catholic and a baptized person of another denomination — is certainly one of these events.

Not only because it is an act of worship, but because a wedding is an especially solemn public expression of faith the parish church is the preferred location.

Exceptions to this rule are possible at the discretion of the local bishop. One reason, for example, could be that one or both partners, Catholic or otherwise, have so little connection with or respect for their Christian faith that a church wedding would be meaningless for them and perhaps even for their families. The specific policy for your diocese would be established by your own bishop.

The occasions you mention are obvious exceptions, when Masses anywhere inside would be impossible. Occasionally papal Masses to ordain dozens of priests, for example, or to marry dozens of couples, also take place outside. The same is true of other huge diocesan or regional Catholic gatherings.

Generally, however, without denying the special beauty that some natural settings enjoy, the church tries to adhere to the principle that our most sacred

## Question Corner

FATHER JOHN  
DIETZEN  
CNS COLUMNIST



actions take place in sacred places.

You don't mention the religious background of your partner. According to Catholic theology, if the non-Catholic party in an interfaith marriage is not baptized, the marriage would be a true marriage but not a Christian sacrament. This wedding may be celebrated in a church or other suitable location, which might be outdoors.

These regulations are found in the Code of Canon Law, No.1118.

*A free brochure answering questions Catholics ask about receiving the holy Eucharist is available by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope to Father John Dietzen, Box 325, Peoria, IL 61651.*

*Questions may be sent to Father Dietzen at the same address, or e-mail: [jjdietzen@aol.com](mailto:jjdietzen@aol.com).*

# Putting the "new" back in newspaper

## Murray's Musings

KEVIN E.  
MURRAY  
EDITOR



By now, I'm sure you've noticed something different about this issue of *The Catholic News & Herald*. We have a new look and, dare I say, a new attitude.

Like many Catholic newspapers, *The Catholic News & Herald* is comprised of a small staff with limited resources. But we have a big 46-county diocese to cover, and we want to give our readers a newspaper of which we can all be proud.

A noticeable difference with this issue, besides our new logo, is our restructured news briefs, entertainment and editorial pages. These new formats — similar to the redesigned front page introduced last year — provide more options for better and expanded coverage on issues pertinent to this diocese and the Catholic faith.

In addition to increasing diocesan-related stories in each issue over the last few months, we've gradually incorporated other elements to give the newspaper more character. We've begun utilizing subheads, jump headlines, more coverage boxes and illustrations. We've developed styles for fact boxes, graphics and other element types to promote information layering.

These upgrades offer an active presentation full of variety in visuals and content, communicate our stories better and give you, the reader, an overall better newspaper.

We have also returned the Parish Profile (on page 20). These profiles are a great way to highlight the uniqueness of our diocese's 91 parishes and missions.

This is, after all, your diocesan newspaper and it should represent all aspects, all corners of this wonderful diocese. But to do so, we need to hear from you. We have begun setting up contacts in each parish and mission in all 10 vicariates to foster two-way communications between the newspaper and your church to provide improved coverage of your parish community.

And, as always, we welcome your feedback. The Letters to the Editor section has seen life again, but it can't continue to breathe without your letters. So write us — tell us what you like and what you don't like.

While many redesign elements are already in place, we will continue to add and tweak features in the months to come. I hope you are as excited about our new venture as we are. This newspaper is for you, so let's continue to work together to make it a better publication.

I look forward to working with you.



## PARISH PROFILE

# Cathedral church has long history serving many in Charlotte

CHARLOTTE—The construction of Mount Holly's St. Joseph Church in 1843 and Charlotte's St. Peter Church in 1852 marked a growing presence of Catholics in the Charlotte region. It also made way for the building of St. Patrick Church, which would become the cathedral church of the future Diocese of Charlotte.

St. Peter Church was still in the care of the Benedictines from Belmont Abbey when John Henry Phelan of Beaumont, Texas, donated funds to have a church built in Charlotte in memory of his parents. Construction of St. Patrick Church began in March 1939.

Frank Frimmer, an Austrian native known for remodeling famous Old World churches, designed and supervised construction of the church, with its gray stucco face, 400-seat nave, balcony and 77-foot tall tower. The altar contained relics of St. Jucundius and St. Justina, and two side chapels were crafted as shrines honoring Mary and Joseph. Stained glass windows, designed in Syracuse, N.Y., depicted the Annunciation, St. Patrick, Joseph's death-bed scene, David with his lyre, St. Cecilia and life events of Jesus.

On Sept. 4, 1939, Bishop Eugene J. McGuinness of Raleigh consecrated the church under the patronage of St. Patrick. It became the first church in North Carolina to be consecrated immediately upon completion and in 1942 became a parish, with Goldsboro-native Msgr. Arthur R. Freeman as pastor.

A rectory and convent were completed in 1941, and a Catholic grade school was built on the property in 1930 was expanded in 1943 to include high school grades.

During the next few decades, the influx of Catholics added to the need for ministerial presence in Charlotte, and three parishes grew from St. Patrick: St. Ann, St.

## ST. PATRICK CATHEDRAL

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Gabriel and St. Vincent de Paul.

During the late 1950s and early '60s — with the founding of Charlotte Catholic High School — the school reverted to elementary grades and was named St. Patrick School. A cafeteria and gymnasium were added in 1959. The school, now part of the MACS system, had a record enrollment of 437 students last year.

On Jan. 12, 1972, Pope Paul VI established the Diocese of Charlotte, and St. Patrick Church was designated the cathedral church. Msgr. Richard Allen, pastor at the time, was appointed the first rector.

The cathedral experienced a major renovation in 1979. The original character of the building, including memorials and windows, was preserved while the church was brought up to current liturgical standards. A new altar was constructed from the original, and artwork of local and religious significance was added. A new locally built pipe organ was



also installed in the balcony.

The cathedral remained closed for six months, and Masses were celebrated in the school. On June 10, Bishop Michael J. Begley of Charlotte presided over the celebration of the church's reopening.

The parish has continued to grow and St. Patrick Cathedral has been host to many diocesan events, such as the memorial Mass in September 1997 honoring the life of Mother Teresa. That Mass was celebrated by Bishop William G. Curlin, who initiated another extensive refurbishment of the cathedral earlier in his pastorate as bishop of the Diocese of Charlotte. Father Frank O'Rourke, then rector of the cathedral, oversaw the work.

The majority of renovative efforts to restore St. Patrick Cathedral to its original condition were completed by Easter of 1996, yet work has continued. The altar, baptismal font, statues and ambo were given new prominence, and a hardwood

floor was installed. The dark oak wainscoting from the 1979 renovation was removed to brighten up the cathedral and make it appear as it did in 1939.

Most recently, Stations of the Cross brought in from Maggie Valley and a Celtic cross were added outside.

Father Paul Q. Gary has served as rector of St. Patrick Cathedral since July 1996. Father Larry LoMonaco, who was ordained in the cathedral in June 2002, assists him in his sacramental ministry as parochial vicar.

St. Patrick Cathedral continues its long tradition of helping the poor, thanks to the work of hundreds of volunteers. One thousand meals were served and 1,800 were delivered to the poor on Christmas Day 2001, according to Father Gary.

With God's blessing and the faith of the parish, Father Gary believes St. Patrick Cathedral will continue serving the Lord and doing great things.



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# THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

Parish Profile: Holy  
Angels Church

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SEPTEMBER 5, 2003

SERVING CATHOLICS IN WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA IN THE DIOCESE OF CHARLOTTE

VOLUME 12 No 42

## To shepherd a flock

*Bishop-designate  
Jugis reflects on  
calling to serve*

BY KEVIN E. MURRAY  
EDITOR

MONROE — Bishop-designate Peter J. Jugis is a busy man.

"My phone has been ringing a lot more," he said. "I've fallen a little further behind in returning messages, because there are not enough hours in the day."

The judicial vicar and pastor of Our Lady of Lourdes Church, recently named the new bishop of the Diocese of Charlotte, woke early Sunday, Aug. 31, to prepare for the morning Masses, despite his being up late the night before.

"The Hispanic community threw a fiesta in my honor" complete with music and skits, he said. "It was after midnight before I got to bed."

See SHEPHERD, page 8



PHOTO BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

Bishop-designate Peter J. Jugis greets parishioners after Mass at Our Lady of Lourdes Church in Monroe Aug. 31.

## MISSION WORK

### Charlotte-area missioners aid Jamaican brothers

BY STEPHEN UZZELL  
CORRESPONDENT

MINT HILL — Parishioners from St. Luke Church in Mint Hill and St. Matthew Church in Charlotte teamed up this summer for another weeklong service trip to Kingston, Jamaica.

The 25 parishioners joined three missionaries from Philadelphia in assisting Father Ho Lung's Missionaries of the Poor July 16-23.

The volunteers divided up among six different project sites. There were five shelters for the homeless and destitute plus a building project in which the brothers were involved. Another one-day project involved the delivery of food donations to the poor within ghetto areas of Kingston.

"Once I got past the harshness of poverty, I began to find Christ in the poor," said Bill Suslick, a first-year volunteer. "I felt God chiseling away at my heart and realized that I really wanted to be close to these people. I was personally welcomed by the residents, and I saw how happy they were helping one another."

The Missionaries of the Poor is a Christian service community of brothers originally founded by Jesuit Father Richard Ho Lung in 1981. The brothers have embraced the sick, disabled and hungry and have provided food, clean water, shelter and medical care to them for over 20 years. Those living in the ghetto yards and the streets of Kingston have

See MISSION, page 13

## REVIVING THE SPIRIT

### Called, appointed and anointed by God

BY KAREN A. EVANS  
STAFF WRITER

CHARLOTTE — Spirit-filled singing resonated through Our Lady of Consolation Church as The Stroller Singers sang of their love for God, Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit.

The choir from Torrance Chapel AME Zion Church in

Cornelius performed throughout the first night of "Revival of the Spirit 2003: Called, Appointed and Anointed" Aug. 21.

The theme of this year's revival, "Called, Appointed and Anointed," referred to the idea that "If our spirits are truly revived, then we will

See REVIVAL, page 7



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

Sister Anita Baird preaches at "Revival of the Spirit 2003: Called, Appointed and Anointed" at Our Lady of Consolation Church in Charlotte Aug. 21-24.

Fires of faith ignited  
Catechists gather for  
enrichment, education

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A lasting legacy  
Western CSS office bids  
farewell to director

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Making N.C. home  
Organization reaches  
out to Hispanics

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# In Brief

Current and upcoming topics from around the world to your own backyard

## VATICAN ASTRONOMER TAKES LOOK AT PLANET MARS



CNS PHOTO BY ALESSIA GIULIANI, CATHOLIC PRESS PHOTO

Jesuit Father Richard Boyle, astronomer at the Vatican Observatory, peers through a telescope at Mars Aug. 27 at the observatory in Castel Gandolfo, Italy. That day the red planet was the closest to Earth that it had been in 60,000 years.

## Mars mania: At pope's summer residence, a room with a view

CASTEL GANDOLFO, Italy (CNS) — While Pope John Paul II was presumably sleeping across the courtyard at 11 p.m. Aug. 27, Jesuit Father Sabino Maffeo was helping visitors participate in "Mars Mania 2003."

For weeks, Father Maffeo, the vice director for administration of the Vatican Observatory based in the pope's summer residence at Castel Gandolfo, has ushered in half a dozen people every night to the fifth floor of the papal residence to take advantage of the unusual closeness of

Mars and Earth.

The particular alignment of the elliptical orbits of Mars and Earth in August brought the two planets within about 34.6 million miles of each other, the closest they have been in an estimated 60,000 years. A similar closeness is not expected before 2287.

Pope John Paul is one of the few people at the papal residence who has not seen Mars through the telescope this summer; Father Maffeo said he is unable to climb metal stairs up to the scope.

## Vatican official says stories about Galileo often oversimplified

ROME (CNS) — The Catholic Church erred when it pressured Galileo Galilei to repudiate his finding that the Earth revolves around the sun, but it did not persecute or torture the 17th-century astronomer, a Vatican official said.

Archbishop Angelo Amato made the comments in light of a letter revealing church officials acting on behalf of Pope Urban VIII wanted a speedy end to the Inquisition's heresy trial because they were worried about Galileo's poor health.

The letter, uncovered in 2001 in the archives of the doctrinal congregation, confirmed the accusation against Galileo for professing the Copernican view of the solar system in light of his own investigations with the telescope. Such a view was "condemned by the church," the letter said.

Archbishop Amato said that initial opposition to Galileo's scientific findings came more from philosophical circles than religious ones. Galileo's discoveries

prompted excitement "even among the Roman cardinals," the archbishop said.

Archbishop Amato said the church trial of Galileo was not centered on scientific aspects but on a question of faith. Pope John Paul II, after a long study, said the church was mistaken in its treatment of Galileo.

Archbishop Amato said the Inquisition's tribunal was acting according to a precise and absolute hierarchy of values that, unlike modern values, did not offer much space for individual freedom.

But the archbishop said the popular legend about Galileo needs debunking, including the idea that "Galileo was incarcerated or even tortured in order to extract his repudiation."

When Galileo stayed at the Vatican, he was lodged in the apartment of an Inquisition official. During his remaining time in Rome, Galileo lived comfortably as a guest at the Florentine embassy, he said.

## Diocesan planner

### ALBEMARLE VICARIATE

ALBEMARLE — *The Daughters of Mary* will meet Sept. 17 at 1 p.m. and every third Wednesday of the month at Our Lady of Annunciation Church, 416 N Second St. Call (704) 485-4526 for details.

### ASHEVILLE VICARIATE

SWANNANOVA — The Wednesday morning *Bible Study* for women will resume on Sept. 10 at 9:30 a.m. at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, 208 7th Avenue West. The class will continue with lesson 12, which covers chapter 9 in the Gospel of John. These lessons will be available in the church office. All former and new students are welcome. For further information, please call Suanne at (828) 697-7383.

ASHEVILLE — St. Eugene Church, 72 Culvern St., will host a workshop on *Creative Aging* on Sept. 19 at 10 a.m. Presenter, Richard vonStamwitz, is a National Certified Gerontological Counselor and offers programs on aging well. For registration and information, call Sandra at (704) 370-3220 or Gerry at (828) 254-5193.

### BOONE VICARIATE

NORTH WILKESBORO — St. John Baptist de La Salle Church, 275 C.C.

Wright School Rd., will have its *parish picnic* on Sept. 20 at 2 p.m. Bring a side dish to go along with their hamburgers and hotdogs. Questions? Call (336) 838-5562.

### CHARLOTTE VICARIATE

CHARLOTTE — *Christians in Career Transition* is a ministry of St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy., devoted to helping people in career crises. The meetings take place on the first and third Mondays of every month 7-9 p.m. in the conference room. For more information, call Rev. Mr. Jim Hamrlik at (704) 576-0456.

CHARLOTTE — *The St. Maximilian Kolbe Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order* invites you to join in praying the rosary for peace on Sept. 21 following the 5 p.m. mass at St. Thomas Aquinas Church, 1400 Suther Rd. People throughout the world will pray together as part of Franciscans annual international day of peace, a day of global ceasefire and nonviolence. Details at (704) 549-1607.

CHARLOTTE — St. Gabriel Church is sponsoring a program to welcome back inactive Catholics and/or those who have left the Church but are interested in returning to the practice of the Catholic faith. *The Catholics Returning Home* series will begin on September 16 from 7-8:30 p.m. and continue on Tuesday evenings for 6 consecutive weeks. Call Sue Johnson (704) 333-8028 with questions.

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## FROM THE VATICAN

# Aging pope looks ahead to activities in year 26

BY JOHN THAVIS  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — As aides prepared 25th-anniversary celebrations for mid-October, Pope John Paul II was already looking ahead to year 26 and its inevitable round of meetings, liturgies and documents.

The pace of the pontificate has clearly slowed, and the pope's fragility means that fewer big projects are on the calendar. But there's enough in the pipeline to keep the 83-year-old pontiff busier than many men half his age.

High on the pope's agenda over the next year are "ad limina" meetings with all U.S. bishops. The visits are required of all heads of dioceses every five years and feature individual and group meetings with the pope. The U.S. visits are set to begin in March and conclude in December.

Typically, the pope uses the "ad limina" speeches to encourage hopeful trends and address problem areas in a specific country. It will be the first such encounters with U.S. prelates since the clerical sex abuse scandal rocked the church in the United States.

After a visit to Slovakia in September, the pope has no firm plans for foreign travel. Invitations are coming in, but papal aides privately say they don't know how much longer the pope will be able to travel.

The important thing, papal advisers say, is for people to realize that the end of papal travel — whenever it comes — does not mean the end of the pontificate. For one thing, the pope is expected to publish a major document summarizing and reflecting on the 2001 Synod of Bishops, which had as its theme the role of the bishop in the church.

## Vatican to discuss translations with English-speaking church leaders

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The Vatican has convened a meeting with church leaders from English-speaking countries to discuss and clarify questions about the translation of liturgical texts.

The Oct. 21 encounter will cover a wide range of topics, including the principles of translation used under new Vatican norms, the respective competencies of the Vatican congregation and bishops' conferences, the role of the International Commission on English in the Liturgy, known as ICEL, and the function of the Vatican-instituted Vox Clara Committee.

Invited to attend the meeting were presidents of bishops' conferences in countries where English is used in liturgical celebrations.

Cardinal Francis Arinze, head of the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Sacraments, called the meeting and is expected to preside over it, according

to officials at the congregation.

A preliminary agenda drawn up by the congregation, based in part on suggestions from bishops' conferences, listed general issues and questions specifically relating to liturgical translations.

General issues included: the respective roles and competence of the Vatican's liturgy congregation and bishops' conferences; and ways to promote more effective communication and consultation.

Specific translation issues included: Strategies to expedite the translation into English of the latest edition of the Roman Missal, the collection of prayers and rituals used in the Mass, which was issued in Latin in 2002; and rationale and principal concerns and clarification of respective areas of competence in "Liturgiam Authenticam" ("The American Liturgy").

### GASTONIA VICARIATE

BELMONT — Queen of Apostles Church, 503 North Main St., will host its *Annual Fall Festival* Sept. 27 from 9 a.m.-10 p.m. Activities will include a craft fair, games, bingo and casino. There will be lots of family fun, food, fellowship and community building. For details, please call the church office at (704) 825-9600.

GASTONIA — *A Prayer Vigil for Peace* will take place Monday, Sept. 29, 7-8 p.m. at Tabernacle Baptist Church, 519 19th St. Come pray with people of all faiths — Jewish, Christian, Muslim, and others — as they gather together to ask the Lord for Peace in our time. If you have any questions, or need directions, please contact Tabernacle Baptist Church, 704-864-4051, or Dennis Teall-Fleming, Director of Faith Formation at Queen of Apostles Catholic Church, Belmont, at (704) 825-9600, ext. 26, or teallfleming@yahoo.com

### GREENSBORO VICARIATE

GREENSBORO — *The Greensboro Council of Catholic Women* will have its annual fall luncheon on Sept. 24. For more information call (336) 288-6022.

GREENSBORO — *Our Lady of Grace Women's Club* will meet Sept. 11 at 7:30 p.m. in the school cafeteria. Father Frank O'Rourke will speak. Call (336) 274-6520 or (336) 292-2056 for details.

### HICKORY VICARIATE

HICKORY — St. Aloysius Church, 921 Second Street, NE, will hold an *open house* on Sept. 28 from 4-6 p.m. All parishioners, neighbors, interested persons and area churches are invited. There will be a guided tour of the church buildings with brief explanations of the highlights and features, a brief history of St. Aloysius Church, and refreshments.

### SALISBURY VICARIATE

MOORESVILLE — St. Therese Church, 217 Brawley School Rd., will offer a *Newcomers Connection* beginning Sept. 10 at 10:15 a.m. and 7 p.m. Area newcomers are invited to meet others and exchange in-

sights. This 10-week session will be based on "After the Boxes are Unpacked" by Susan Miller with biblical advice and clear-headed counsel. Morning sessions: call Lois at (704) 892-4326. Evening sessions: call Tori at (704) 662-9122.

### SMOKY MOUNTAIN VICARIATE

WAYNESVILLE — St. John Church is offering *Inquiry Sessions* for people interested in learning about the Roman Catholic faith. Catholics who wish to receive the sacraments of Eucharist and confirmation are invited. Classes are Sundays at 10:30 a.m. in the Parish House, 234 Church St. Call (828) 456-6707 or (828) 648-7369 to register.

MURPHY — *The Sister Community Committee* will meet on Sept. 29 at 7 p.m. at Immaculate Heart of Mary, US Hwy. 64 W. New members are welcome. Call (828) 389-3758 for details.

### WINSTON-SALEM VICARIATE

WINSTON-SALEM — St. Leo the Great Church, 335 Springdale Ave., will have a *Christian Mothers meeting* on Sept. 10 from 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. and Sept. 24 from 7 - 9 p.m. Join us to pray, play, laugh and cry together. For more information, call Leigh Munley at (336) 774-0381.

WINSTON-SALEM — St. Leo the Great Church, 335 Springdale Ave., would like to form a *Bible study group for men*. The Bible study would focus on the Acts of the Apostles using the study guide published by Ignatius Press. Interested? Call Vicki at (336) 724-0561.

Please submit notices of parish events for the diocesan Planner at least 15 days prior to the event date in writing to Karen A. Evans at kaevans@charlottediocese.org or fax to (704) 370-3382.

### DSA 2003

## Contributions help ministries reap a fruitful harvest

BY KEVIN E. MURRAY  
EDITOR

CHARLOTTE — Through the generous support of people across the Diocese of Charlotte, pledges to the 2003 Diocesan Support Appeal have exceeded expectations.

To date, \$3,843,260 has been pledged, which is 3 percent over the \$3,720,000 goal.

Fifty-three parishes have exceeded their DSA goals, and 17 are within 10 percent of reaching their goals, according to Barbara Gaddy, associate development director for the diocese.

Contributions to DSA 2003, "Reaping a Fruitful Harvest," provide the needed support for 36 ministries across the diocese, including Catholic Social Services, educational and multicultural ministries and the vocations program.

"These ministries rely heavily on the DSA," said Bill Weldon, diocesan chief financial officer. "Although there is outside funding for almost all of our ministries, the DSA is the primary funding source for them."

Catholic Social Services will receive almost \$1.3 million in DSA gifts this year, representing 35 percent of the goal, said Weldon.

DSA support will go toward the Catholic Diocese of Charlotte Housing Corporation, which is gearing up to assist senior citizens, families with low-to-moderate incomes and other special-needs populations throughout the diocese.

"Wherever there is a need, we hope to be able to provide housing," said Gerard Carter, director of Special Ministries with diocesan Catholic Social Services.

So far, 18,511 households have made pledges to the DSA, a total of \$3,209,238 has been collected to date. Pledge reminders will continue to be sent through December. And, it is not too late for others to contribute.

"Thousands of lives are changed thanks to the generosity of those who contribute to the DSA," said Gaddy.

To contribute to the DSA, contact Barbara Gaddy at (704) 370-3302.

### THIS MONTH IN — 1995

The Little Flower assisted living residence had its groundbreaking ceremony in Charlotte Sept. 6, 1995. The Little Flower residence, named for St. Therese of Lisieux, was the first Catholic-oriented assisted living residence in the Diocese of Charlotte. It opened to accommodate senior adults who could no longer live comfortably on their own or as safely as they would like, but did not require 24-hour medical care of a nursing home.

### DID YOU KNOW?

Sept. 9 is the feast day of St. Peter Claver, who was born in 1580 and became a Spanish Jesuit. He went to Cartagena (now Columbia) where he spent 40 years in this great slave market of the West Indies and labored for the salvation of Africans. He consecrated himself by vow to their salvation and called himself "the slave of the slaves." It is said he baptized more than 300,000 slaves, and ministered to lepers and prisoners. St. Peter Claver died from plague Sept. 8, 1654. He was canonized in 1888, and named patron of all missionary activities to Blacks by Pope Leo XIII.



# Fires of faith are ignited in diocese

## Catechists gather for enrichment, education

BY REV. MR. GERALD POTKAY  
CORRESPONDENT

KERNERSVILLE — About 400 people gathered for enrichment and education at "Lighting the Fires of Faith IX."

The event, an integral part of the ongoing training for catechists, youth ministers, RCIA teams and adult education leaders, took place at Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School in Kernersville Aug. 23.

The bilingual event, sponsored by the diocesan Office of Faith Formation, was designed to bring easy means for obtaining certification and commissioning as required by the Diocese of Charlotte for all who are serving Catholic youth and children.

"I came to learn as much as possible to enable me to teach better," said Lori Paquin, a catechist from St. Joseph of the Hills Church in Eden. "Fires of Faith' helped me to understand many things more clearly and now I am better prepared to answer (questions) than I was before I came."

Franciscan Sister Bernadette Svatos, northern region coordinator of faith formation, was pleased with the event.

"We had a very good turnout showing that the people were very interested in teaching our youth," she said. "In fact, the fire (of the Spirit) has really been set ablaze here in the northern region with at least an additional 50 applicants signing up at the door."

Fifteen presenters offered 22 sessions in both English and Spanish. Dr. Cris Villapando, diocesan director of faith formation, gave the opening address in both languages.

"We are involved in an awesome ministry," he said. "I hope you don't forget that we have become agents of peace ... Therefore, we must be at peace with ourselves. Then, we will be able to go and show peace to our families, our community and all others. We must show peace publicly with respect to all peoples."

Sharon Pierce, parish catechetical leader for St. Paul the Apostle Church in Greensboro, presented a session on the sacraments.

"We are really all about sacra-



PHOTO BY REV. MR. GERALD POTKAY

Catechists, youth ministers, RCIA team members and adult education leaders participate in the opening prayer service for "Lighting the Fires of Faith IX" at Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School in Kernersville Aug. 23.

ments," she said. "These are events that mark important times in our lives that we participate in and go forward with. We need to have things to feel, touch and sense to bring us towards the end of our journey."

Within the church, sacraments connect us to the whole story because they are ongoing, said Pierce.

"They bring continuity to our community as they point out our involvement in the pascal mystery — the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ," she said. "They enable us to become walking symbols of the life of the church, the Living Body of Christ. They allow us to sacrifice for him as he did for us."

Joanna Jackson, another parish catechetical leader, presented a session

on morality. Her goal was to "present a Christian morality as a way of life, showing how this morality comes from the Old Testament, the New Testament and the teachings of the Catholic Church."

Martin Mata, campus minister at

Bishop McGuinness who is involved in the Hispanic ministry at Holy Cross Church in Kernersville, presented sessions on the sacraments and Scripture to Hispanic participants at the event. Mata shared his personal experiences and his ministry to help guide the catechists on their "journey of faith."

James McCullough, parish catechetical leader at Our Lady of Grace Church in Greensboro, presented sessions on "Community of Disciples" and "Scripture."

"(I hoped to) get people interested enough to follow up by reading and studying Scripture on their own," he said. "Hopefully, I gave them enough background to walk midway between fundamentalism and skeptical rationalism."

The event was well received by the participants.

"I've been able to do a lot of networking and have gained a sense of what other churches are doing," said Josh Warner, a parishioner of St. Pius X Church in Greensboro. "Fires of Faith' has created a common vision. I've been able to get a lot of intellectual resources and much of the theory behind the methods we are using."

Catechist Cheryl Rhoades, of Holy Family Church in Kernersville, came to the event with a need for more resources and a desire to delve deeper into the faith for a wider understanding of what and why we believe.

"I wish they would have more than one 'Lighting the Fires of Faith' over the year," she said. "This has given me a tremendous perspective (on the faith)."

Contact Correspondent Rev. Mr. Gerald Potkay by calling (336) 427-8218 or e-mail [gpotkay@triad.rr.com](mailto:gpotkay@triad.rr.com).



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# Western CSS office director leaves lasting legacy

*Sister Marie Frechette to direct office at motherhouse*

BY DIANNE M.A. RIGGS  
CORRESPONDENT

ASHEVILLE — Amidst joyfulness, warm wishes and good food, Sister Marie Frechette, a Missionary Servant of the Most Blessed Trinity, bade farewell to staff, board members, friends and clients of the Western Regional Office of Catholic Social Services at a reception held in her honor August 3.

After serving 10 years as regional director in Asheville, Sister Marie was asked by her community's reverend mother, Sister Barbara DeMoranville, to serve as the order's director of the Mission Advancement Office at the motherhouse in Philadelphia.

"I am excited about taking this opportunity to serve my community in an inner-community job," she said.

At the same time, she said, saying good-bye to the mountains and the people she has known and loved in North Carolina has been painful.

"Sister Marie has made the western office what it is today because of her ability to interact with board members as well as her clients and the community," said Veronica Sartor, Catholic Social Services board member of the Western Regional Office.

"Knowing her has made me a better person... (we're) really going to miss her."

Sister Marie's new role will include fund raising, generating support for the community and public image — "advancing our mission as Missionary Servants," she said. "Father Thomas A.



PHOTO BY DIANNE M.A. RIGGS

Sister Marie Frechette, departing director of CSS's Western Regional Office, cuddles baby Aric Hall while mother Kitrina (far left) and Ann Mercer, St. Barbabas Church parishioners, recall happy moments at Sister Marie's farewell party Aug. 3.

Judge, C.M., (founder of the order) had given us the mission that every Catholic is a missionary. So my job will be to invite others to become missionaries and to promote our missionary activities."

These activities embrace serving the poor and abandoned, whether they are poor spiritually, emotionally or financially, she said. Sister Marie will be working with a team of six at the motherhouse. Her move to her new post in late August coincided with the 38th anniversary of her entrance into the Missionary Servants' convent.

More than anything else, many in the Diocese of Charlotte will remember Sister Marie for her vivacious kindness and welcoming attitude. She interacted with persons of many religious persuasions and backgrounds in her counseling practice and was well known in the Asheville community. She was a champion of justice for refugees and immigrants as well as for families' well-being.

"I think she's been a very strong role model for women in the diocese," said Mary Virginia Bunker of St. Eugene Church in Asheville.

Sister Marie, a master's level licensed social worker, came to the Western Regional Office as director in 1993 from Catholic Social Service's family counseling center in Pensacola, Fla. Originally from Cape Cod, Mass., Sister Marie entered the Missionary Servants of the Most Blessed Trinity in 1965 after graduating high school.

In addition to her supervisory and counseling roles in Asheville, Sister Marie was often a "jack of all trades" — she wore diverse hats such as computer problem solver, handyman, gardener, grant writer, office supervisor and even occasionally baby sitter, all of which took place within two location moves

and old buildings "full of surprises."

"I feel so privileged to have had 10 years working with such a wonderful staff," said Sister Marie.

Existing programs flowered under her leadership, while others were added during her tenure. Recent additions are the Russian Refugee Assistance program for the growing Russian population (upwards of 4,000, most in Buncombe County); the International Adoption program, which helps families adopt from Russia and China; and the Hispanic and Immigration Services' one day per week satellite presence in both Morganton and Hendersonville.

"She has been a real blessing to CSS ... we will miss her enthusiasm and her very special charism and wish her well," said Elizabeth Thurbee, executive director of Catholic Social Services in the diocese, at the farewell event.

Thurbee will oversee the Western Regional Office on a part-time basis while Catholic Social Services searches for a successor. With the loss of Sister Marie's therapeutic counseling and supervisory counseling skills, Thurbee said Catholic Social Services regrets having had to discontinue the Western Regional Office's sliding-scale therapeutic counseling services for the time being.

"We certainly view therapeutic counseling as an important service ... When we hire a new director, one of our goals will be to reinstate that program," said Thurbee.

## SISTER MARIE FRECHETTE

Originally from Cape Cod, Mass., Sister Marie entered her order in 1965 after graduating high school. Her first ministry was teaching religious education in Rochester, N.Y. In 1972, she moved to the Diocese of Greensburg, Pa., as a social worker and stayed there for 13 years.

She received her bachelor's degree in psychology from Seton Hill College in Greensburg in 1976. She earned her master's degree from the University of Chicago School of Social Service Administration in 1981. Her graduate work focused mainly on family counseling.

In Pensacola, Fla., where she was director of Catholic Social Service's family life center, Sister Marie was a consultant for Compassionate Friends and Parents of Murdered Children. She also started M.O.M.S., Mornings of Meditation and Study, a church-based women's group.

Sister Marie came to CSS's Western Regional Office in 1993.

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## AROUND THE DIOCESE

# Making North Carolina home

*Organization reaches out helping hand to Hispanic immigrants*

BY KAREN A. EVANS

STAFF WRITER

BELMONT — "Would you swim across the river for your child? Would you walk across a desert for her?" Lissette Westover asked her audience.

Many Hispanic immigrants would and have taken such extremes measures for their families, she explained. They flock to the United States to financially provide for family members in their native countries. They come here to live in a safer environment, one where they can walk down the street without the fear of being struck by a stray bullet.

Westover addressed the board of directors, members of the advisory board and guests at the inaugural reception of La Casa Latinoamericana de las Carolinas, Inc. Aug. 27 at Belmont Abbey College.

In order to provide support services for immigrants in Gaston County, Westover, Dr. Ivan Sanchez, Ana Villa and Jose Torres formed La Casa two and a half years ago.

They had organized a Hispanic festival with members of the Gastonia police force. When between 3,000 and 4,000 Hispanics attended the festival, Westover and the other recognized the call to reach out to the Hispanic community.

"What Hispanics want is to feel welcome," Westover said. "They need a helping hand, a friendly face and a warm smile."

She said that La Casa grew out of those needs.

"I have received the benefits of living in the United States," she said. "I feel obligated to help those who come here out of need." A parishioner of St. Michael Church in Gastonia, Westover came to the United States 20 years ago from Dominican Republic not out of need, but by her own choice.

"La Casa is committed to serving both Latino immigrants and our local community as they cope with the many challenges faced by the recent growth of this segment of the population," Westover said.

La Casa provides interpretation and translation services, doctor and job referrals, transportation and letter writing. Many immigrants are illiterate, and La Casa also aids them in filling out forms.

Belmont Abbey College has formed a partnership with La Casa, providing it with a start-up grant of \$10,000 as well as office space from which to conduct its operations. Additional funding came from a \$2,500 grant from the Diocese of Charlotte and a federal grant.



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

Joe Puceta, principal of St. Michael School in Gastonia, and Lissette Westover, executive director of La Casa Latinoamericana de las Carolinas speak with Wayne Cooper, Mexican consulate, at La Casa's inaugural reception Aug. 27.

"Belmont Abbey College is excited to have the opportunity to host La Casa," said Dean de la Motte, academic dean of the college. "This partnership is consistent with our Catholic identity and will allow us to work with the Diocese of Charlotte."

"Our hope is that in serving the Latino community, we can also establish Belmont Abbey College as an educational resource for Latino students in the years and decades to come," de la Motte said.

"It is crucial to provide support services for the immigrant community," said Wayne Cooper, Mexican consulate.

As a member of the advisory board for La Casa, Cooper said it is the role of the advisors to help guide La Casa in fund raising and initiating services similar to those already in place in Charlotte. Members of the advisory board include Msgr. Mauricio W. West, administrator of the Diocese of Charlotte; Brother Agostino Fernandez of Belmont Abbey; several members of St. Michael Church; and parents and faculty of St. Michael School.

La Casa is a non-profit, non-sectarian organization whose primary goal is to foster unity among the peoples of all Latin American countries, while encouraging cultural expression and sharing with people of other ethnic backgrounds. The board of directors consists of Westover, executive director; Dr. Ivan Sanchez, vice president; Ana Villa, secre-

tary; and Jose Torres, treasurer.

Quoting a Mexican poet, Westover said, "One should never look down on a human being except to reach down to help him up."

Contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans by calling (704) 370-3354 or e-mail [kaevans@charlottediocese.org](mailto:kaevans@charlottediocese.org).

## WANT TO GET INVOLVED?

La Casa is looking for energetic volunteers of all ethnic and economic backgrounds to assist with its services. Please contact Lissette Westover at (704) 825-6812 or e-mail [lacasa@bac.edu](mailto:lacasa@bac.edu) to find out how you can help.

## Abbey professor receives Fulbright Scholar award

*Honor takes Dr. Thuot to University of Malta*

BELMONT — Belmont Abbey College's Dr. Eugene Thuot, professor of political science and honors program director, was awarded a Fulbright Scholar grant to lecture at the University of Malta during the 2003-2004 academic year.

"Dr. Thuot is an esteemed senior faculty member and I am extremely pleased that his teaching and scholarship have been recognized by the Fulbright committee," said Dean de la Motte, academic dean at Belmont Abbey College. "Few Fulbright scholars come from the ranks of small regional liberal arts colleges, so Dr. Thuot's achievement is both a reflection and further enhancement of the tradition of teacher-scholars at Belmont Abbey."

Thuot is one of approximately 800 U.S. faculty and professionals who will travel abroad to 140 countries through the Fulbright Scholar Program. Established in 1946 under legislation introduced by the late Senator J. William Fulbright of Arkansas, the program's purpose is to build mutual understanding between the people of the U.S. and other countries.

"I am delighted and deeply honored," said Thuot. "I'm also very grateful to friends and colleagues who over the years have provided important help, encouragement and support. Above all, because the Fulbright Grant that I am receiving is a teaching award and because I view teaching as a collaborative undertaking between teacher and students, I am especially mindful and appreciative of the wonderfully responsive Abbey students I have had over the course of 28 years in the classroom."


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# Reviving the spirit

REVIVAL, from page 1

come to a fuller understanding of our call, our appointment and our anointing," said Rev. Mr. Curtiss Todd, vice chancellor and vicar for the diocesan African American Affairs Ministry, which sponsored the event.

The annual revival is designed to be reminiscent of the early days of outdoor preaching and is an opportunity to publicly worship in the spirit of the black church, according to Rev. Mr. Todd. It is also meant to break down traditional misconceptions of Catholicism by Protestants.

"We should praise God for all of his blessings," said Sister Anita Baird, this year's revivalist. "God is worthy of all glory and worship for what he does, but more so for just being God."

Sister Anita is a member of the religious congregation of the Society of the Daughters of the Heart of Mary. She is also a member of the faith community of St. Sabina Church in Chicago where she has served as Word Ministry team leader, head of the Spiritual Life Institute and as a member of the preaching staff.

Sister Anita played a major role in the establishment of the Archdiocesan Office for Black Catholic Ministries and has twice represented the Archdiocese of Chicago as delegate to the National

Black Catholic Congress. In July 2000, she was appointed by Cardinal Francis George to serve as the inaugural director of the Archdiocesan Office for Racial Justice.

At Our Lady of Consolation, Sister Anita preached that people can identify with the suffering of Jesus through their own suffering, and that God knows of our suffering through the intercession of Jesus.

"Just because we know Jesus does not mean that we won't go through hardship," she said. "If we suffer with him, we are being obedient to God's will."

Sister Anita also spoke about surrendering to God's will, and putting one's trust solely in God.

She relayed Matthew's parable of Jesus sleeping in a boat during a violent storm. When his frightened disciples woke him, Jesus admonished them for their lack of faith.

"In the midst of the storm, God is still in control," Sister Anita said.

"Health and wealth are fleeting; Jesus in the only constant," she said. "We should always pray for God's will to be done."

Responding to God's call means to be conformed to the image of Christ and to the good purpose of God, Sister Anita said. To be a good Christian is to carry the cross and to be crucified with Christ.

"We must stay focused on being like Christ," she said.



PHOTO BY KAREN A. EVANS

Gospel music and song filled Our Lady of Consolation Church during the "Revival of the Spirit 2003" Aug. 21-24, inspiring many to stand up, clap their hands and sing along.

Near the conclusion of the evening's preaching, many in the congregation murmured, spoke or even called out "Thank you, Jesus" and "Amen." Tears flowed down several people's faces.

Despite all of the talk of suffering and crying, the spirit of the evening was joyous. Many lingered after Sister Anita concluded her preaching, talking with neighbors and hugging friends and even complete strangers.

Sister Anita preached for three consecutive nights on the topics "Called according to God's divine purpose," "God's appointment book" and "There's power in the anointing." The revival concluded

with a Harambee Mass on Sunday morning.

Each service featured gospel music performed by local choirs. In addition to The Stroller Singers, Genesis Mass Choir from Lancaster, S.C.; Charlotte's C.N. Jenkins Memorial Presbyterian Church men's choir; and The Perpetual Hope Gospel Choir from Charlotte performed at subsequent services.

"The God we serve knows our every need," said Sister Anita.

Contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans by calling (704) 370-3354 or e-mail [kaevans@charlottediocese.org](mailto:kaevans@charlottediocese.org).

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# Reflecting on a calling to serve



PHOTO BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

Bishop-designate Peter J. Jugis and members of the ordination planning committee listen to ideas of Father Frank O'Rourke, pastor of Our Lady of Grace Church in Greensboro and planning coordinator, during a meeting at the diocesan pastoral center Aug. 29.

## SHEPHERD, from page 1

Bishop-designate Jugis went on to celebrate a 9 a.m. Mass in English, then two Masses in Spanish. After each Mass, he stood outside to greet parishioners wanting to speak with him. Enthusiastically, he chatted with each one of them, often about his new calling as the diocesan shepherd.

"Everyone's been telling me they've had mixed emotions," he said in an interview that morning. "People are very pleased and delighted that this has happened, but then at the same time they are somewhat sad that they are losing their pastor. That seems to be the overall consensus of everyone, both from the Hispanic community and the American community (of the parish)."

"He'll make a wonderful bishop," said Joann Jablonski, a parishioner. "He's made a big difference for our parish. It's sad to have him leave us, but it's for a wonderful reason."

Since becoming pastor two years ago, Bishop-designate Jugis has overseen a \$1.5 million building campaign for a new

church in Monroe — the parish's 800 families can no longer fit in the current building. One day a week, he would also make a 40-minute trip to the diocesan pastoral center in Charlotte to manage the marriage tribunal.

Bishop-designate Jugis is now making that trip more often. There is much planning to do before his October ordination, and he will soon move into a new office and residence in Charlotte.

Despite the schedule, he can still clearly remember the life-altering phone call in July from Archbishop Gabriel Montalvo, apostolic nuncio, which literally brought him to his knees.

"Suddenly, in a single instant, God changes your life," he said. "... You don't expect someone on the other end to tell you you've been appointed the next bishop of Charlotte ... I couldn't believe what I was hearing."

It was a very humbling moment, he said.

"It's still very humbling, and I'm in awe of the great responsibility that I will have," he admitted. "(But) I can count on the help and support of all of the priests and all of the people in the parishes to do the work of the Lord."

"I try not to think of the enormity of the task, but just let the Holy Spirit guide and show me what has to be done."

## Discerning the call

Bishop-designate Jugis put his faith implicitly in the Holy Spirit over 20 years ago when he first decided to become a priest.

The third-generation American hails from a diverse background, including Hungarian, German, Irish, Lithuanian and Czechoslovakian descents. His parents, Joe and Peggy Jugis, were born and raised in New York but relocated to Charlotte and married in St. Patrick Cathedral. When St. Ann Church was formed, the Jugises were among the original families.

Bishop Michael J. Begley, then-pastor of St. Ann, even baptized the infant Peter Jugis in the church in 1957.

"I had the honor of being baptized by the future bishop of the diocese," said Bishop-designate Jugis.

As the family began to grow, they moved to a bigger house and joined St. Vincent de Paul, a mission of St. Ann before becoming its own parish.

After graduating from South Mecklenburg High School in 1975, the young Jugis studied accounting at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. He supplemented his educational expenses by playing the organ during weddings at local parishes.

"I just began to realize my heart wasn't in the accounting field," he said. "I could do it intellectually, but I just didn't feel that this was what I wanted to give my life to totally."

While visiting St. Gabriel Church where he was to play at a wedding, he met

Msgr. John McSweeney, then-associate pastor and vocations director.

"After the wedding rehearsal, he asked me in passing if I had ever thought of being a priest," said Bishop-designate Jugis. "I told him, 'No, I never had.' He said, 'Well, think about it, would you?'"

And so he did — a lot over the following year — "about what I could really give my heart to completely," he said. "I started to realize more and more that giving my life to God and serving the church as a priest seemed to be agreeable at the time. Of course, I had to continue to discern and think and to talk with priests."

He discussed the idea with Msgr. William Wellein, then-pastor at St. Vincent de Paul. "I got to spend time talking with him and learning more about the priesthood and being a parish priest," he said.

His parents very supportive of his decision.

"It was my mother who said, 'Well, Peter, we were thinking that you had been moving in this direction for a long time, but we didn't want to say anything to see if you would arrive at that conclusion on your own.'"

"It was a tremendous affirmation and confirmation of what I had been feeling and discerning privately for many months," he said. "They were validating the external signs of the interior vocation I had been considering."

## Answering the call

When he applied to be a seminarian of the diocese in 1979, he interviewed with Bishop Begley, who spoke about his concern for the "unchurched" in the state.

"I remember him saying to me, 'There's a lot of work we have to do in North Carolina,'" said Bishop-designate Jugis. "He was inviting me to study for the priesthood and to join him, I think, in the mission of the Catholic Church in North Carolina. I received from him a missionary spirit."

He studied at the North American College, the U.S. seminary in Rome, and was ordained in 1983 by Pope John Paul

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FEATURE SECTION

II in St. Peter's Basilica. His parents and brothers were present at the ordination, as were Bishop Begley and Msgr. McSweeney.

Since then, he has served in numerous parishes across the diocese, including St. Leo the Great Church in Winston-Salem, Holy Infant Church in Reidsville, St. John Neumann Church in Charlotte, Sacred Heart Church in Salisbury and Queen of the Apostles Church in Belmont.

In 1992, Bishop-designate Jugis became the first priest of the diocese to receive a doctorate in canon law, defending his thesis at the Catholic University of America.

"It was the bishop who first asked me to study — Bishop Begley and then Bishop (John F.) Donoghue — they always made the opportunities available," said Bishop-designate Jugis.

When he told his parents of his new appointment as bishop, they were pleased yet surprised.

"They both started crying. It's something that was completely unexpected; it came out of the blue," he said.

**A shepherd's role**

Bishop-designate Jugis believes a good priest is "a prayerful man — someone who loves Christ with all his heart and who has dedicated his life to pursuing a relationship with Christ," he said, "and someone who loves Christ's people. He has a compassionate heart for the sufferings and difficulties that Christ's people go through."

Many describe Bishop-designate Jugis that way.

"He's a real people-person," said Julie Angermeier, an Our Lady of Lourdes parishioner.

"He's so kind, patient and understanding," said parishioner Austin Doherty. "I don't know how he does all that he does."

"Bishop Jugis is one of our own — a native of North Carolina," said Bishop William G. Curlin, bishop emeritus. "Having served as pastor of several parishes, he is well acquainted with the pastoral needs and challenges that await him."

"He is fluent in Spanish," added Bishop Curlin. "That will prove of special assistance in serving our rapidly increasing Catholic Hispanic growth."

While growth throughout the diocese is an issue — "I expect to be a very busy man," said Bishop-designate Jugis — he isn't bringing a preset agenda to his role as bishop.

"I think that's unwise for anyone, either when coming to a parish or assuming the office of bishop," he said, "because you come with a desire to serve and learn what the needs are."

What he does bring, he said, is "an eagerness to serve the Lord and the church, and to be directed by the Holy Spirit in the ministry of shepherding God's people."

Bishop-designate Jugis is eager to visit all of the 91 parishes and missions of the diocese as bishop.

"I think in my 20 years as a priest here, I've probably already visited almost every parish in the diocese," he



PHOTO BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

Bishop-designate Peter J. Jugis delivers his homily during Mass at Our Lady of Lourdes Church in Monroe Aug. 31.

said. "There may be one or two that I have not yet visited."

One regret is he won't be able to oversee the completion of the new Our Lady of Lourdes Church.

"I would love to have seen it through to completion, but I can always drive by to see how progress is being made," he said.

"Having worked beside Bishop Jugis during the past 10 years, I esteem him to be one of our finest priests — a man totally devoted to the Lord and to the service of his brothers and

sisters," said Bishop Curlin. "I joyfully pledge Bishop Jugis my obedience and fraternal support."

**THE BIG DAY**

The ordination and installation of Bishop-designate Peter J. Jugis has been set for 12 p.m. Oct. 24, at St. Matthew Church in Charlotte. A committee is working to facilitate a celebration that expresses the diversity and unity of the entire diocese.

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# Culture Watch

A roundup of Scripture, readings, films and more

## New 'travel guide' offers a glimpse of true joy of heaven

BY NANCY FRAZIER O'BRIEN  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Imagine a resort that combines the appeal of Disney World, ancient Rome and a trip to Venus. Where you could golf with Bob Hope, take an art lesson with Michelangelo or practice baseball by throwing a few pitches to Joe DiMaggio. Where you would live with everyone you've ever loved, including all the pets you've ever had.

That's just a tiny glimpse of what heaven will be like, says Anthony DeStefano, author of "A Travel Guide to Heaven," an \$18.95 hardcover book to be published Sept. 16 by Doubleday.

"For a very long time I've believed



there was a gap between how great and wonderful our teaching on heaven is and the fact that people are not very excited about it," DeStefano told Catholic News Service in a Washington interview.

"There's been a ho-hum attitude" about heaven, which is often depicted as a hazy place full of fog and clouds, with little substance, he said.

But heaven is a very real physical place, inhabited by real physical beings and offering "a feast for the senses," DeStefano says.

"The Bible describes heaven as a banquet," he says in the book. "Well, that's the same as saying God is going to throw a big party for us. It means there will be plenty of people, plenty of family, plenty of laughter, plenty of conversation, plenty of music, plenty of togetherness, plenty of noise."

Although he had been interested in the topic for years, DeStefano decided to write a book on heaven only after attending 15 funerals in seven months several years ago and finding that none of the priests' sermons was leaving their congregations joyful about the prospect of heaven.

He began writing the book but found "I wasn't very excited about the project myself" and set it aside. A couple of years later, he and his wife, Kimberly, found themselves by a happy accident in the presidential suite of the Beverly Hills Hotel, drinking champagne and toasting to an experience that felt like "heaven on earth."

That toast inspired DeStefano to

combine the travel guide idea with the theological study he had already done on the subject of heaven. His goal was to deliver a message that would be "accessible to people who were not necessarily that religious," he said.

"Everybody enjoys getting away from it all on a happy, luxurious vacation," he added.

In the book, DeStefano calls himself "a kind of theological Sherlock Holmes" about Christian teachings on heaven.

"We have 2,000 years of biblically based teachings on the subject of heaven," he wrote. "We need to start making some simple deductions about what those teachings mean for us."

The 37-year-old DeStefano, executive director of Priests for Life for the past seven years, wrote "A Travel Guide to Heaven" on weekends in just three months. He'll be doing a 10-city book tour in October, then he's committed to writing a second book for Doubleday, this one called "Ten Prayers God Always Says Yes To."

All this while running an organization that employs 50 people full time and has an annual budget of \$7 million. Based in Staten Island, N.Y., Priests for Life works to train Catholic clergy how to speak and preach about life issues.

"It's important to be clear on the Christian teaching regarding abortion, while at the same time demonstrating abundant compassion for those women and men who have been involved in them," DeStefano said. "You have to love both mother and child, and Priests for Life helps the clergy to understand how best to do this."

But you won't find a discussion of abortion in "A Travel Guide to Heaven."

"It doesn't go near politics — or any politically sensitive issues," DeStefano said. "It's not about Republican vs. Democrat, liberal vs. conservative, or even religious vs. secular."

"It's about joy, about paradise," he added. "It's about a final destination that most of us can agree on and all of us can aspire to and hope for."

As the publication date neared for his first book, DeStefano admitted some nervousness at the prospect that some who hear about the book — but do not read it — would criticize it as a trivialization of the very weighty topic of heaven.

The lighthearted nature of the book is reinforced by its cover, depicting a flying suitcase with the wings of an angel.

"Of course, the book is not really lighthearted at all," DeStefano said. "It pretends to be, yes. But the travel motif that I employ is really a ruse — it's a hook to bait readers who aren't 'religious' or 'spiritual.' Once you get into the book, it's quite apparent that it deals with the most profoundly important and serious topics."

## WORD TO LIFE

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS: SEPT. 7, 2003

### Sept. 7, Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Cycle B Readings:

- 1) Isaiah 35:4-7a  
Psalm 146:7-10
- 2) James 2:1-5
- 3) Gospel: Mark 7:31-37

BY JEAN DENTON  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

At a youth convention recently, I listened as Nellie, a singer in a Christian music group, was telling a group of young people how she connects her faith with her other career — social work.

She advised them, "Know God, trust Jesus, spend time in prayer and build your relationship with him because there are people all around you who depend on you for that."

I'd never thought of it that way, but she's right. This week's readings are about opening people — the deaf, the blind, the frightened — to the saving life

of Jesus.

In the Old Testament reading, Isaiah, speaking for God, tells us: "Say to those whose hearts are frightened: Be strong, fear not! Here is your God.... He comes to save you." Every day Nellie is with hurting and struggling people. Because she knows God, she is the one who can assure them of God's promise to rescue them.

When God has a gift for the world, the way he presents it is through people. This is how we receive such gifts as love, scientific discovery, friendship, health, art, knowledge, music, verbal expression, humor, social structuring, curiosity. Faith — knowledge of our loving, saving God — is a gift too. God has given it to some of us to develop and nurture it and, when the time comes, share it.

Because of Nellie's faith and experience, she knows that "streams will burst forth in the desert," that the struggling individuals and families she meets have a loving God who will save them. But she must be sure enough and close enough to Jesus to share this relationship with people who depend on her to bring God into their lives.

## WEEKLY SCRIPTURE

Scripture for the week of September 7 - September 13

**Sunday (Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time),** Isaiah 35:4-7, James 2:1-5, Mark 7:31-37; **Monday (Birth of Mary),** Micah 5:1-4, Matthew 1:1-16, 18-23; **Tuesday (St. Peter Claver),** Colossians 2:6-15, Luke 6:12-19; **Wednesday,** Colossians 3:1-11, Luke 6:20-26; **Thursday,** Colossians 3:12-17, Luke 6:27-38; **Friday,** 1 Timothy 1:1-2, 12-14, Luke 6:39-42; **Saturday (St. John Chrysostom),** 1 Timothy 1:15-17, Luke 6:43-49

Scripture for the week of September 14 - September 20

**Sunday (Exaltation of the Holy Cross),** Numbers 21:4-9, Philippians 2:6-11, John 3:13-17; **Monday (Our Lady of Sorrows),** 1 Timothy 2:1-8, John 19:25-27; **Tuesday (Sts. Cornelius and Cyprian),** 1 Timothy 3:1-13, Luke 7:11-17; **Wednesday (St. Robert Bellarmine),** 1 Timothy 3:14-16, Luke 7:31-35; **Thursday,** 1 Timothy 4:12-16, Luke 7:36-50; **Friday (St. Januarius),** 1 Timothy 6:2c-12, Luke 8:1-3; **Saturday (Sts. Andrew Kim Taegon, Paul Chong Hasang and companions),** 1 Timothy 6:13-16, Luke 8:4-15

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# 'Highlands' is high on heart



CNS PHOTO BY SONY PICTURES CLASSICS

Shirley Henderson and Finn Atkins in a scene from "Once Upon a Time in the Midlands," a quirky melodrama about a timid garage owner (Rhys Ifans) who discovers love is worth fighting for when his live-in girlfriend's former lover, a two-bit hood (Robert Carlyle), returns to reclaim her. Incorporating classic Western motifs into the film's British working-class setting, the film combines good performances with a sweet, at times trite, narrative, resulting in a modest but big-hearted tale about the fortifying power of love and the true meaning of family. Some slapstick violence and recurring rough and crude language. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-III — adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is R — restricted.

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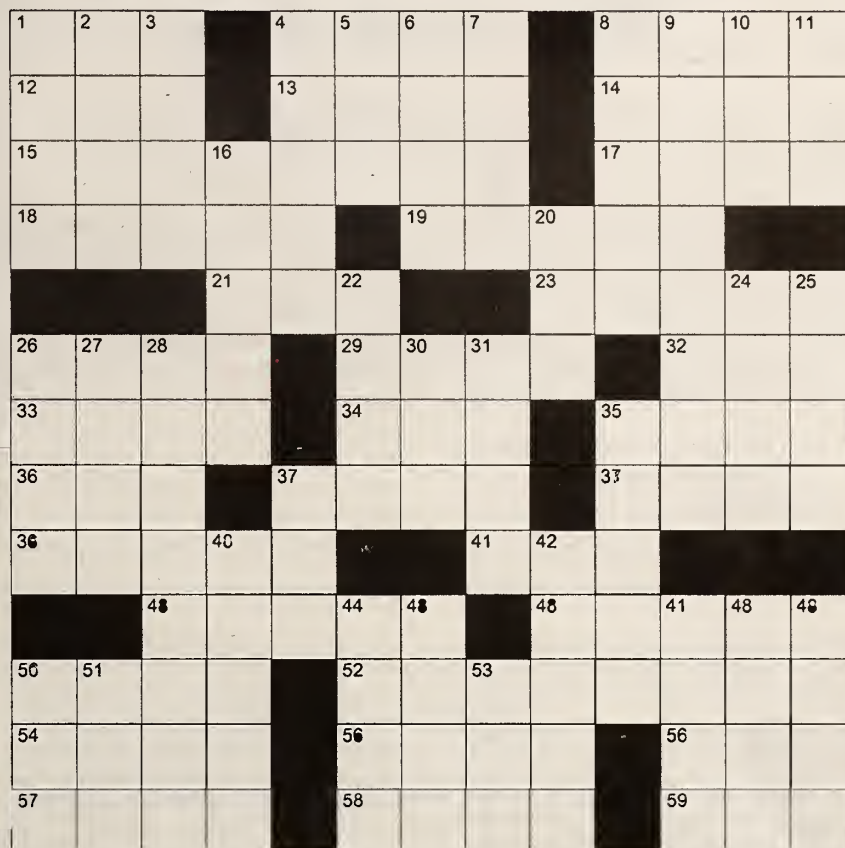
Dinner: 7:00 pm

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## CROSSWORD PUZZLE



### ACROSS

- 1 Question
- 4 So be it
- 8 Island off Brazil
- 12 NC legal office
- 13 \_\_\_ en scene
- 14 Catholic liturgy
- 15 Spendthrift
- 17 Chocolate cookie
- 18 Sarah's son
- 19 Non plus \_\_\_
- 21 Oolong
- 23 Jazz style
- 26 Conduit
- 29 Doctors for Fido
- 32 London restaurant
- 33 Intl. accounting term
- 34 Poison \_\_\_
- 35 Ursa
- 36 Roswell sight
- 37 First garden
- 38 Cay
- 39 -thermal (var.)
- 41 Tide type
- 43 Example of 28 down
- 46 Job character
- 50 La \_\_\_ tar pits
- 52 Pauline letter
- 54 Book after Jn
- 55 Rest
- 56 Piercing tool
- 57 Ship part
- 58 Black (archaic form)
- 59 Guide for term papers

### DOWN

- 1 North American Indian
- 2 Skulls
- 3 Command to Trigger
- 4 Liturgical vestment
- 5 Fighter plane
- 6 Jacob's brother
- 7 Singer \_\_\_ Carter
- 8 When the moon hits your eye
- 9 Jesus' stories
- 10 Native suffix
- 11 Org. for armed forces
- 16 Calendar fruits?
- 20 Cooking msrmt.
- 22 Zealous
- 24 Elliptic
- 25 Combustible heap
- 26 Papal name
- 27 Uncertain
- 28 They spoke God's word
- 30 First lady
- 31 Actress \_\_\_ Daly
- 35 Good Book
- 37 Orion's beloved
- 40 Breakfast item
- 42 City in Paraguay
- 44 Fencing sword
- 45 Biblical King
- 47 Muslim priest
- 48 Ginsberg poem
- 49 Mexican Univ.
- 50 Emeril's word
- 51 Record label
- 53 Seeking (abbrv.)

TOO BUSY FOR ONE LAST KISS? DO YOU EVER FORGET TO KISS YOUR LOVED ONES AS YOU SAY YOUR DAILY "GOOD-BYES"? HOW DEVASTATED WOULD YOU BE IF YOU MISSED YOUR LAST CHANCE TO KISS THAT PERSON WHO MIGHT BE GONE FOREVER?

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In the marriage case styled THOMAS - SPURRIER, 207/03, the Tribunal of the Diocese of Columbus, Ohio is currently unaware of the present address of DEBRA LEE SPURRIER BRANDON. The Tribunal herewith informs her of the case and invites her to contact REVEREND JOSEPH N BAY JCL, Presiding and sole Judge, no later than 26 September, 2003. Phone (614)241-2500. Anyone who knows of the whereabouts of DEBRA LEE SPURRIER BRANDON is herewith asked to make this Citation known to her or to inform the Tribunal of her current address.

Given this 19th day of August, 2003.  
REVEREND JOSEPH N. BAY JCL  
Presiding Judge

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# Conference to build Catholic families, culture

ARDEN — St. Barnabas Church will once again play host to "Triumph of the Cross: Building Catholic Families, Building a Catholic Culture" Sept. 12-13.

"We helped start Triumph of the Cross conference last year," said Kris Gillet, co-owner of Saints and Scholars Bookshop. "That was a bad spring for the Catholic Church, and we wanted to help both lay and religious look again at the positives in Catholicism."

Nearly 250 people representing 10 parishes and three states attended that first conference at St. Barnabas.

"People were very positive about the speakers and the variety of the workshops," said Gillet. "We expect those numbers to go up this year."

Some of this year's conference speakers include Jim Burnham, author of the "Beginning Apologetics" series and a frequent guest on EWTN; Father Paul Scalia, a priest from Virginia; Jim Kelley, diocesan director of development; and Father Matthew Kauth, pastor of St. Francis of Assisi Church in Franklin.

Burnham, a young dynamic lecturer on apologetics and Catholic doctrine, will offer two lectures on Saturday as well as meeting with teen-agers during one of the workshop sessions.

"Besides the main speaker, we'll have 16 workshops this year," said Gillet. "We have people offering workshops on 'Taking Your Toddlers to Mass,' 'Prayer,' 'The Moral Imagination of Children,' 'Living Your Faith in the Home' and so on. It's all about our wonderful Catholic faith."

Besides the workshops, Mass will be

offered on Friday evening and early Saturday morning. On Saturday, there will be Eucharistic adoration throughout the day. Reconciliation will also be available during the day.

Nazareth House, a center for Catholic resources, particularly in regard to the family, is another sponsor of the conference. Nazareth House has also supported marriage preparation programs in various parishes.

"We are happy to be supporting a conference that stresses the family, life and love," said Helen Gordon of Nazareth House.

Gordon, who has worked over a decade as the coordinator of sidewalk counselors outside Asheville's abortion clinic, also helped put together a mentoring program for couples planning to marry and will help with the workshop on marriage preparation.

Father Roger Arnsparger, administrator of St. Barnabas Church and a supporter of the conference, stressed the conference is not only for Catholic adults, but for teens as well. Each session has a workshop aimed at young people.

### Want to go?

The conference will take place Friday, Sept. 12 and Saturday, Sept. 13. Cost is \$10 per person. Teenagers may attend free. (There is an additional cost for lunch on Saturday.) To register, contact St. Barnabas Church at (828) 684-6098 or Saints and Scholars Bookshop at (828) 251-5558.

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PHOTO BY STEPHEN UZZELL

Maureen King helps a shelter resident with a cool drink of water during a Sunday Mass in Kingston, Jamaica.

# Missioners bring Christ to Jamaica and find God

MISSION, from page 1

come to rely upon the hope and courage that the brothers bring.

"Joy is the food of my soul and joy comes from being with Christ who is present in the brothers and in the poor," said Brother Alfred Stevens of Channai, India.

The volunteers experienced first hand the joy of serving Christ through the poor alongside the brothers. Many have been regular volunteers for some five years helping those in need feel as God's children. They have worked side by side with the brothers in washing, feeding, dressing, and treating the wounds of residents in the shelters.

"It wasn't as hard as I thought it would be," said 13-year-old Michael Ludwig, the youngest member of the volunteer group. "The poor are very much the same as us, only more."

Ludwig and the others rotated

among the different shelters — the Lord's Place provides for HIV patients; Bethlehem Center is home for infants and toddlers with various illnesses and developmental disabilities who need constant care; Jacob's Well houses over 80 women with disabilities and sickness; the Good Shepherd shelters men who are crippled and homeless; and Faith Center was home for nearly 100 men of all ages with various needs.

"The worst day of my life is nothing compared to what they live every day," said Madge Daly, a five-year veteran. "They help each other with such a love for God and each other and such an example of Christianity. What's good for me too is what it does for my kids."

Daly, husband Steve and three of their adult children have been regular volunteers in Kingston.

Bringing Christ's presence through hands-on assistance to the residents was a peak experience for many parishioners during the trip. But often the giving was turned around back upon them.

"Working with the AIDS patients was a leap of faith for me," said Greg Platko who served his second year as a volunteer. "But I helped a brother undress and wash the wounds of one of the residents."

"The brother started at the head and I began with the man's feet," said Platko. "And as I looked upon the patient lying helpless, I saw a vision of Christ coming down from the cross. I'll always have this understanding of what it means to serve the least of the Kingdom."

Cindy Plakto, a registered nurse, has returned to work in Kingston for five years. She provides assistance to many residents in need within the shelters to complete the medical component of the mission.

"I realized that it is about our life mission of seeking the Kingdom," she said. "And we cannot find it without the help of one another. Then, together we are a part of a new mission."

The volunteers have established a solid bond with the Missionaries of the Poor and with many of the residents. Some have maintained contact with brothers in the community and with patients following the mission trip. The joy of service experienced by these individuals has rooted and grown in tradition and expectation from year to year.

Theo Ennis, trip planner and organizer from St. Luke Church, has returned to Kingston for five years.

"Whenever I go there, I gather all of my love, caring and sharing to last until next year," he said. "If you want to see heaven on earth, this is the trip, because you see God in every face."

Contact Correspondent Stephen Uzzell at St. Luke parish by calling (704) 545-1224 or e-mail [uzzellore73@yahoo.com](mailto:uzzellore73@yahoo.com).



## Join the Carmelite Friars in Prayer as We Honor Saint Therese, The Little Flower

"Love attracts love..."

In celebration of the Little Flower's life and spirituality, we would like to include your intentions in two Novena Masses from October 2-10 at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Mount Carmel in Middletown and the Basilica of Saint Therese in Lisieux, France.

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O Saint Therese, to you all life was a miracle!  
I pray to you, Powerful Intercessor, to lighten my burdens by asking the Lord for miraculous intervention.  
You have promised to let a "shower of roses fall from Heaven." Please pray with me for His love to wash over me and heal me—physically, emotionally and spiritually.  
When I am alone, reach into my heart with peace and comfort, and when I am afraid, bring me new hope and strength in the Lord. With confidence, I place in your hands this special favor (state petition). ~ Amen.

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# Perspectives

A collection of columns, editorials and viewpoints

## The good news of religion, Part II

*Headlines you should be reading in the secular news*

In an effort to provide some balance to news reporting on religion, I thought I would share some news items (with eye-catching headlines added for effect) you might have missed while reading your daily paper, or watching the evening news. The items "reported" below all say good things about religion.

The news items I share are just a few pieces from a large body of evidence demonstrating the importance of religion to healthy well-being in both individuals and society. Other studies I have come across show a positive correlation between religious activity and the building of civil society (e.g., Robert Putnam, author of "Bowling Alone," calls churches the "reservoir of social capital" in our society). Still other research has shown the positive connection between religious activity and giving, volunteering and donating blood, and between religious activity and happier marriages and strong families.

Why is it, I wonder, we do not see such stories more prominently featured in the news venues we turn to each day? A majority of Americans consider themselves religious, with 9 out of 10 saying they pray regularly (May 1999 Gallup Poll) and 52 percent saying they attend religious services at least once a week (2002 U.S. News/PBS Religion & Ethics Weekly Poll).

Perhaps the imbalance in news reporting on religious matters may be a factor in leading many to be dissatisfied with news reporting and to have less confidence in the mainstream media overall.

Yes, there is good news on religion being reported by the mainstream media. My concern, however, stated once again, is that there is an imbalance in reporting the misdeeds versus the good deeds, and where and when the reporting takes place (i.e., front page vs. back page, primetime vs. sleep time, every day vs. once a week). Given that media corporations desire to offer stories the public will read and tune in to — the same public that overwhelmingly describes itself as re-

### Guest Column

JOE PURELLO  
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF  
JUSTICE & PEACE



ligious/spiritual — I would think that the mainstream media would want to address the imbalance in religion news reporting.

*Have you seen the following good news about religion?*

#### RELIGIOUS SCHOOLS EDUCATE MILLIONS — SAVE U.S. TAXPAYERS BILLIONS

Religiously affiliated K-12 schools educate about two-thirds of the approximately 6 million students who attend private and parochial schools.

Catholic schools alone educated 2,553,277 students in 2002 and employed 163,004 workers. In addition to the obvious benefits of a quality education offered to millions of students, Catholic schools save American taxpayers almost \$18.8 billion a year (using the average public school per pupil cost of educating a K-12 student of \$7,392). (Info from the National Catholic Education Association and the 2003 The World Almanac and Book of Facts).

#### CATHOLIC HOSPITALS PLAY KEY ROLE IN U.S. HEALTHCARE

Nearly 84 million patients were treated at 585 Catholic hospitals in 2002 while 714,253 young people benefited from residential services of group homes and orphanages. (Info from the 2003 Official Catholic Directory).

Thanks to Catholic organizations and their efforts to reach out to the uninsured, more than 108,000 children were enrolled to receive health care coverage through Medicaid through direct pro-active reaching out activities to the uninsured (Catholic News Service, July 12, 2003).

#### NATION'S POOR TURN TO CHURCH FOR ASSISTANCE

As the largest non-governmental provider of social services in the country, Catholic Charities USA affiliated agencies (such as Catholic Social Services of the Diocese of Charlotte) offered emergency assistance (e.g., food, clothing, disaster relief) to 5,352,376

## Pope says faithful feel serene, strong even as body

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — A strong faith and righteous life keep a believer firmly attached to God so that even as the body weakens with age, the believer experiences serenity and the strength to give witness to God, Pope John Paul II said.

The 83-year-old pope, who appeared tired and had difficulty speaking at his Sept. 3 general audience, said that in old age those who have been faithful to God feel as strong as "the palms and cedars which are planted in the courtyard of the temple of Zion."

The pope returned to the Vatican for the morning to hold his audience with an estimated 9,000 visitors packed into the 7,000-seat Vatican audience hall, its aisles and large atrium.

In his audience talk, the pope spoke about Psalm 92 and its praise of the just God who rewards the righteous and punishes evildoers.

The psalmist, he said, was convinced that God's rewards and punishments would be dealt out in this life, not simply at the time of judgment after death.

While Jesus taught that "history

### The Pope Speaks

By CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE



cannot be interpreted so linearly," the pope said, the psalm is still valid as a prayer that God will intervene in history to make his goodness known.

The psalm of praise ends with a view toward the just person's old age and promises that the believer's final days will be serene, he said.

Even when age seems to be a weight, the pope said, "the spirit of the one who prays will remain lively, happy and effective."

"The roots of the just are planted in God himself and draw divine grace from him," the pope said. "The life of the Lord nourishes him and transforms him, making him prosperous and vigorous, that is, able to give to others and to witness to his faith."

people; provided 547,732 people with counseling services; and assisted 902,489 people with non-emergency community services such as English as a Second Language classes, job training, adoption assistance, refugee resettlement, and immigration assistance (2002 Catholic Charities USA Survey).

#### HELP KEEP TEENS OUT OF TROUBLE — BRING THEM TO CHURCH MORE OFTEN

Religion may contribute to the well-being of adolescents, lowering a teenager's likelihood of participating in risky behavior.

Researchers from the University of Pennsylvania's Center for Research on Religion and Urban Civil Society found that teenagers who attended church on a weekly basis were 46 percent less likely to use drugs than teenagers in general. Another study from the same center surveyed 4,000 teenagers and found that those attending church on a weekly basis were half as likely to drive drunk.

More about these studies and related studies can be found at the center's Web site, [www.crrucs.org](http://www.crrucs.org). Similar inverse relationships between religious practice and drug/alcohol use have also been reported by The National Study of Youth and Religion from UNC-Chapel Hill and the National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University.

A University of Michigan study of 5,000 high school seniors reported in the December 1998 issue of Health Education and Behavior that religiously-involved high school seniors were less likely to smoke, use drugs,

get into fights, carry a weapon, and more likely to wear seat belts and get adequate sleep (showing that religious activity is associated with not only reducing bad behavior but also promoting healthy behavior).

#### CHURCH ATTENDANCE LOWERS BLOOD PRESSURE, IMPROVES CIRCULATION

A 2001 University of California Berkeley study controlled for such behavior as smoking and drinking in its survey of 6,545 adults in Alameda County, Calif., and still found religious involvement to be a positive factor in overall health — i.e. lowering one's chances of being afflicted with circulatory diseases (reported in the April 13, 2002 Charlotte Observer, section F, p. 12).

This finding complements a 1998 Duke University study (reported in the Journal of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina) that found people who regularly attend worship services were 40 percent less likely to suffer from high blood pressure (a major contributor to stroke and heart attacks).

#### CRIMINALS WHO PRAY FIND CRIME DOESN'T PAY

Evidence suggests that inmates who are involved in religious programs have much lower recidivism rates than inmates who are not similarly involved.

For example, one study of inmates involved in a faith-based values program in a Texas jail showed a 13 percent recidivism rate, compared to a 50 percent rate for Texas inmates as a whole (from The Economist, February 12, 2000).



# Beyond 9/11: Shame and glory

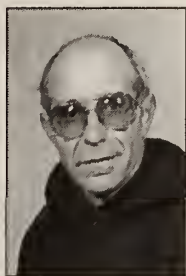
As we approach the anniversary of Sept. 11, the terrible images of death and violence are vividly flashing in our minds. Those images become even more painful as we witness loss of lives on a daily basis in Iraq.

Our faith tells us that every life is precious, whether a person worked at the World Trade Center, the Pentagon or was on the flight that crashed in Shanksville, Pa., or died in Afghanistan or is still dying in Iraq. We have learned, I hope, that 9/11 was a day of shame because evil forces took over our fragile humanity and seemed to defy any human or divine power. We also learned that our country showed a remarkable courage of unity and prayer. I loved reading the daily papers at that time because they reported so many acts of real heroism and faith. I never experienced so much goodness, courage, faith and heroism in our country as I did on 9/11 and in the days following the tragedy. Thank God we have heroes!

My understanding of 9/11 is more than national and patriotic pride. My understanding has the roots in the Gospel's story of the Good Samaritan (Lk. 10:25-37). To keep on saying "us" and "them" does not really help us or them. I imagine waking up battered and bleeding to look into the face of a stranger — a stranger whose dress and accent indicate that he/she is "one of them." Northerners, Southerners, Iraqis, Palestinians, Europeans, Jews, people of different color, different reli-

## Guest Column

FATHER JOHN  
AURILIA,  
OFM Cap



gion, different values. People you love to hate, people who should be kept at a distance. Now keep on imagining: that stranger gives you first aid and gets you to the hospital. What can you make of it? "They" are supposed to be bad people.

The Good Samaritan keeps on flashing in my head as I remember the tragedy of 9/11 — we were bleeding and wounded, many died and there were people whose names we didn't know; we didn't even know the color of their skin or their language (they didn't say words!), who were there to give us blood, to heal our wounds and to bury the dead. All those are Good Samaritans. They were there together to make the tragedy less tragic and the pain bearable.

Sept. 11 tells us that the cycle of violence never ends, if we keep on thinking revenge. It's time to begin the cycle of kindness, which ends and begins with you, and since kindness is contagious, your kindness will eventually end the cycle of violence.

Those who have seen the old movie "Stars in my Crown" remember the story of the old preacher and the old black man who were living in a small town. The black man was living in a little cabin. One day, a very valuable deposit of copper was discovered on his property. Some business leaders came to the old man and offered to buy the land. The old man didn't care about money; he simply wanted to keep his land and his little cabin.

Since a great deal of money was at stake, the situation turned ugly. Many people who were his friends became his foes. The old preacher found out a group of people was going to hang him. The preacher stepped out on the porch with the black man and said: "John knows that he is going to die. He asked me to come out today and write his last will. He wants me to read it to you. He wants to give his fishing rod to Pete, because he remembers the first bass Pete caught with it. He wants to give his rifle to Jimmy, because he remembers using it to teach him to shoot."

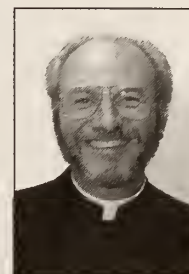
Item by item, the old man gave in love to the very people who had come to take his life. The impact of this "asymmetrical response" was more than even their hardened spirits could handle. One by one, the would-be executioners turned away in silence and tears. The little grandson of the black man asked him, "What kind of will was that?" The old grandfather replied, "The will of God, son ... the will of God."

*Father Aurilia is pastor of Immaculate Conception Church in Hendersonville.*

# Walking to the Promised Land

## Economy of Faith

GLENMARY  
FATHER JOHN  
S. RAUSCH



Francisco, a man in his mid-40s, walked for five days through the southwestern desert to enter the United States after paying his smuggler \$2,000.

In Phoenix, he was packed into a truck and driven for two days with no food, water or bathroom breaks. When he arrived in south Georgia, he was hurting but was put to work beside other undocumented workers tending the onion and tobacco fields.

Every day, hundreds of workers from Mexico and Central American countries risk health and life to find jobs in the United States. Since 1998, more than 2,000 migrants crossing the U.S.-Mexico border died from environmental causes like heat stroke, hypothermia, dehydration or drowning.

The number of unauthorized workers in the United States probably exceeds 5.3 million over the age of 18. Their presence contributes significantly to the economy — they account for roughly 10 percent of all restaurant workers, nearly a quarter of private household workers and more than half of the 1.6 million agricultural field workers.

A University of Illinois-Chicago study reported 91 percent of unauthorized immigrants around Chicago contributed more than \$5 billion to the area's economy. Although 70 percent pay taxes, only 12 percent receive federal aid like Medicare/Medicaid, food stamps or social security. All workers have basic rights under U.S. labor law, but only 29 percent of unauthorized workers apply for worker's compensation when injured. Undocumented workers, who fill the shortfall in significant sectors of the economy and contribute to the nation's growth, remain the most vulnerable group in the workforce.

Mexican and U.S. Catholic bishops issued a joint pastoral letter recently recognizing migration is a human right and "migration between our two nations is necessary and beneficial."

The letter maintains that given global conditions where poverty is rampant "the presumption is that persons must migrate in order to support and protect themselves." While sovereign states have a right to control their borders, no such right is absolute, but rather conditioned on the needs of the immigrants and the host country. The letter advocates a program of amnesty and legalization plus reflects the teaching of Pope John Paul II that identifies the elimination of underdevelopment as the long-term antidote to illegal immigration.

# Is there a hierarchy of doctrines?

*Q. I find it difficult to believe some teachings it seems all Catholics are supposed to accept, even some in the Catechism of the Catholic Church. Is there such a thing as a "range" of required faith in Catholic doctrines or are they all one level, to be accepted by everyone in the same way? (California)*

A. There is in Catholic theology what the catechism (Nos. 90, 234) calls a hierarchy of doctrines or truths, since they vary in their relation to the foundations of the Christian faith. This means some doctrines are more closely linked to divine revelation in the Scriptures or in Christian tradition.

As an obvious example, the doctrine of the incarnation, that Jesus is a divine person with two natures, human and divine, is more essential and basic than belief in guardian angels.

Over the centuries Catholic theologians have assigned to individual doctrines what are called theological notes, indicating the connection they have to basic Christian revelation. These notes are determined, for example, by the source for the teachings, how they developed in the church's tradition, how they relate to other dogmas and so on.

These notes range from "defined faith" to "of faith because of ordinary teaching of the universal magisterium" to "common and certain," all the way down to "offensive to pious ears," with at least a dozen other categories in between.

Several years ago, for example, someone claimed that a particular teaching was an article of faith because it was in the catechism. Since the bishops of the world had been consulted before publishing the catechism, so the argument went, the teaching was infallible.

Others replied that, using that criterion, every statement in the catechism would be an infallible article of faith.

In 1993, however, when asked a similar question about the theological weight of doctrines in the catechism, Cardinal Josef Ratzinger, prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, explained, "The individual doctrines that the catechism affirms have no other authority than that which they already possess."

In other words, while some teachings are clearly articles of Catholic faith (the primacy of the bishop of Rome for one), determining the theological note of others may require serious study and research concerning their development in the magisterial history of the church. The mere fact that they are in the Catechism of the Catholic Church is not enough to make such a judgment.

## Form of the Lord?

*Q. In the story of the tower of Babel (Gn 11:5), the Bible says the Lord came down to see the town men had built. In what form would the Lord have appeared? (Illinois)*

## Question Corner

FATHER JOHN  
DIETZEN  
CNS COLUMNIST



A. The Bible narrative about the tower of Babel must be understood in the context of the special literary forms that underlie all the "prehistory" parts of Genesis, Chapters 1-11.

The underlying theological message in those chapters, expressed in a variety of literary forms, is that after Adam and Eve's sin of pride, a continuous disintegration and isolation undermined the whole human family.

That disintegration was personal (expressed by the breakdown of harmony between Adam and Eve and God); marital (the collapse of the open, trusting relationship between Adam and Eve themselves); familial (the murderous enmity between Cain and Abel), and culminating in the social breakdown of all human relationships, with their pride resulting in an inability even to understand each other's speech, the Babel story.

It was into that plight that God entered with the call of Abraham (Gn 12), and began his work of salvation.

So we cannot know what it means that the Lord came down — in human form? as an angel? or as another form of vision or message? Whatever it was doesn't affect the story's meaning.



# Holy Angels Church blossoms into fruitful parish

*Church wins awards for architectural excellence*



FILE PHOTO

Holy Angels Church in Mount Airy, as it appeared in this 1997 photo. Recent renovations at the church have earned it an Architectural Excellence Award from the city.

**MOUNT AIRY** — In the early years of the 20th century, clergy from Winston-Salem ministered to the 10 or so Catholics living in Mount Airy. As the dawn of the 1920s approached, members of the faith had increased to a number warranting the construction of a new Catholic church — Holy Angels.

Until 1919, Mount Airy Catholics either traveled to St. Leo the Great Church in Winston-Salem or welcomed clergy from the town into their homes and a local opera house for liturgies. By the mid 1910s, sporadic visits by Benedictine priests since 1907 were being met with an increasing Catholic population in the area.

Addressing the need for a permanent place of worship, Bishop Leo Haid, the Benedictine abbot of Belmont Abbey and vicar apostolic of North Carolina, purchased a site for a

new church in Mount Airy in November 1919. The church, built with white granite found in the region, was dedicated by Bishop Haid in May 1921. Benedictine Father Alphonse Buss was named pastor.

Holy Angels Church gained parish status from Bishop William Hafey of Raleigh in 1930. The first resident diocesan pastor was Father Aloysius Adler, who made his home in the rectory built in 1929.

The Great Depression of the 1930s brought financial hardships to Mount Airy, and the granite quarry from which the stone used to build Holy Angels Church was taken came close to shutting down. Many residents, Catholics among them, were forced to relocate to find work, and the congregation of Holy Angels Church dwindled.

The parish did recover, and by the 1950s a number of converts were

**HOLY ANGELS CHURCH**  
1208 North Main Street  
Mount Airy, N.C. 27030  
(336) 786-8147

Vicariate: Winston-Salem  
Administrator: Father Eric Kowalski  
Number of families: 200



Father Eric Kowalski

adding to a growing population of Catholics in Surry County. Appointed pastor in 1953, Father Maurice Spillane also played a key role in the construction of a church about 35 miles to the southwest, St. Stephen in Elkin.

Also during Father Spillane's pastorate, parishioners living along Highway 58/221 in Virginia began making their way to Mount Airy for Mass. Several years later, they began a parish centered in Woodlawn, Va., and built a church placed under the patronage of St. Joseph.

Acquisitions of property during the 1960s and '70s broadened the church grounds in Mount Airy. The church, rectory and a house for catechetical and social events were also refurbished.

Father Arthur Duncan arrived at Holy Angels in November 1980. For the next 14 years, he ministered to a growing congregation and during his time there he was named a prelate of honor (monsignor) by then-Bishop John F. Donoghue of Charlotte. Msgr. Duncan led efforts to build a parish hall; parishioners broke ground in June 1993 and the hall was dedicated in January of the following year. Named the Duncan Center, the hall honors the pastor who served as shepherd in Mount Airy until his retirement in December 1994.

Following Msgr. Duncan's retirement, the Holy Angels family continued to enlarge. A variety of parish programs were added during the pastorates of Father Richard Contiliano and Father Thomas Stott.

Father Stott assumed responsibility for the parish in July 1996. In addition to an active Knights of Columbus council and ongoing financial support of diocesan seminarians, parish outreach also includes an active ministry for the Hispanic community

in Surry County, whose members compose about 25 percent of the Holy Angels congregation.

A collection of about 200 saints' relics is also located at the church, and is available for public veneration. The relics, obtained by Father Stott over the years, were featured in an issue of Extensions magazine, a publication of The Catholic Church Extension Society.

Recent major renovations at the church have caught the attention of locals and visitors to the city, as well as The Mount Airy Appearance Commission, which honored Father Eric Kowalski and the parish with the Architectural Excellence Award from the city.

Father Kowalski, administrator since 2001, saw the need for improvements on the church building and rectory when he arrived and was honored by the award.

"I felt we needed to be a presence in the community here," he said. "For us to be recognized by the community shows we've come a long way."

The church's roof was replaced, and the stained glass windows have been covered with an exterior pane of glass to seal and protect them from the elements and from harm. Two large urns of hibiscus were placed at the front entrance, a bed of flowers was added, and the English tudor rectory was brightened with hanging baskets and more hibiscus.

Other renovations are expected, such as turning part of an empty field into needed parking space to accommodate the growing number of parishioners. None of the changes would be possible without the support of the parish, said Father Kowalski.

"It's all been done by their generosity and their sacrifice," he said. "That's very humbling. It shows they do love God, their faith and their church."

About 200 families make up the registered congregation of Holy Angels Church, one of the northernmost parishes in the Diocese of Charlotte.

"I've found the people here to be very open, very loving," said Father Kowalski. "They love their parish tremendously, and they're willing to work to make goals happen."

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Roman Catholic  
Diocese of Charlotte



Established Jan. 12, 1972  
by Pope Paul VI

# THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

Celibacy is a gift  
Bishop Gregory reaffirms  
celibacy in response to  
Milwaukee petition

...PAGE 6

SEPTEMBER 12, 2003

SERVING CATHOLICS IN WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA IN THE DIOCESE OF CHARLOTTE

VOLUME 12 Nº 43

## 40 years in the making

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI  
CHURCH CELEBRATES  
DECADES OF GROWTH

BY KEVIN E. MURRAY  
EDITOR

JEFFERSON — Tables placed in the shape of a cross lined the lawn outside as parishioners and former pastors crowded inside to celebrate the 40th anniversary of

St. Francis of Assisi Church with a Mass and fiesta Sept. 6.

Bishop-designate Peter J. Jugis celebrated the bilingual Mass along with Father C. Morris Boyd, pastor. Former pastors and priests who have served the church — Father Mark Lawlor and Glenmary priests Father Roland Hautz, Father Joseph Waters and Father John Otterbacher — concelebrated the Mass.

The celebration was considered by many to be a milestone for the small church.

"It's a celebration of the accomplishment of the humble beginnings of the church — 40 years of growth," said parishioner David Thomas.

"In this community, this is a landmark," said Frances Parsons. "We've been growing by leaps and bounds, but it's taken a long time."

Parsons is one of the original 12 Catholics who began

See CELEBRATION, page 7



PHOTO BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

## Booklet chronicles priests' response to Sept. 11 terrorist attacks

BY CAROL ZIMMERMANN  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The limp body of Franciscan Father Mychal Judge, carried by firefighters amid the ash and debris of New York's World Trade Center, has become an enduring image of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. The priest, a New York City Fire Department chaplain, rushed to the twin towers the morning of the attacks and was killed by falling debris.

And as a nation still pieces together the horror of the terrorist attacks at their two-year

### More Coverage

page 8 | Pope: religions must restore shattered hopes for peace

page 9 | Research paper documents effects of Sept. 11 terrorist attacks

anniversary, more images of priests — who rushed to the scene of the destruction or ministered to countless men and women who lost loved ones —

See RESPONSE, page 8

## Together forever

*Couples celebrate marriage jubilees*



PHOTO BY JOANITA M. NELLENBACH

George and Patricia Pastore share a kiss Sept. 7. They are one of 13 couples, parishioners at St. Margaret Church, celebrating their 50th wedding anniversaries this year.

## Six-and-a-half centuries, 650 years of marriage

BY JOANITA M. NELLENBACH  
CORRESPONDENT

MAGGIE VALLEY — Sixteen men and women walked down the aisle of St. Margaret Church Sept. 7, reenacting a similar scene from half a century ago.

The eight couples were among 13 couples from the church celebrating their 50th wedding anniversaries this year.

"They stood together after the intercessions as Augustinian Father Francis Doyle, St. Margaret's pastor, blessed them and invited the congre-

gation to extend their hand over the jubilarians.

"In this very room, there's

See MARRIAGE, page 13

For a new generation  
Catholic Daughters tackle  
leadership, recruitment ideas

...PAGE 4

'Sowers of God's Peace'  
Conference will discuss  
social justice, morality

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Culture Watch

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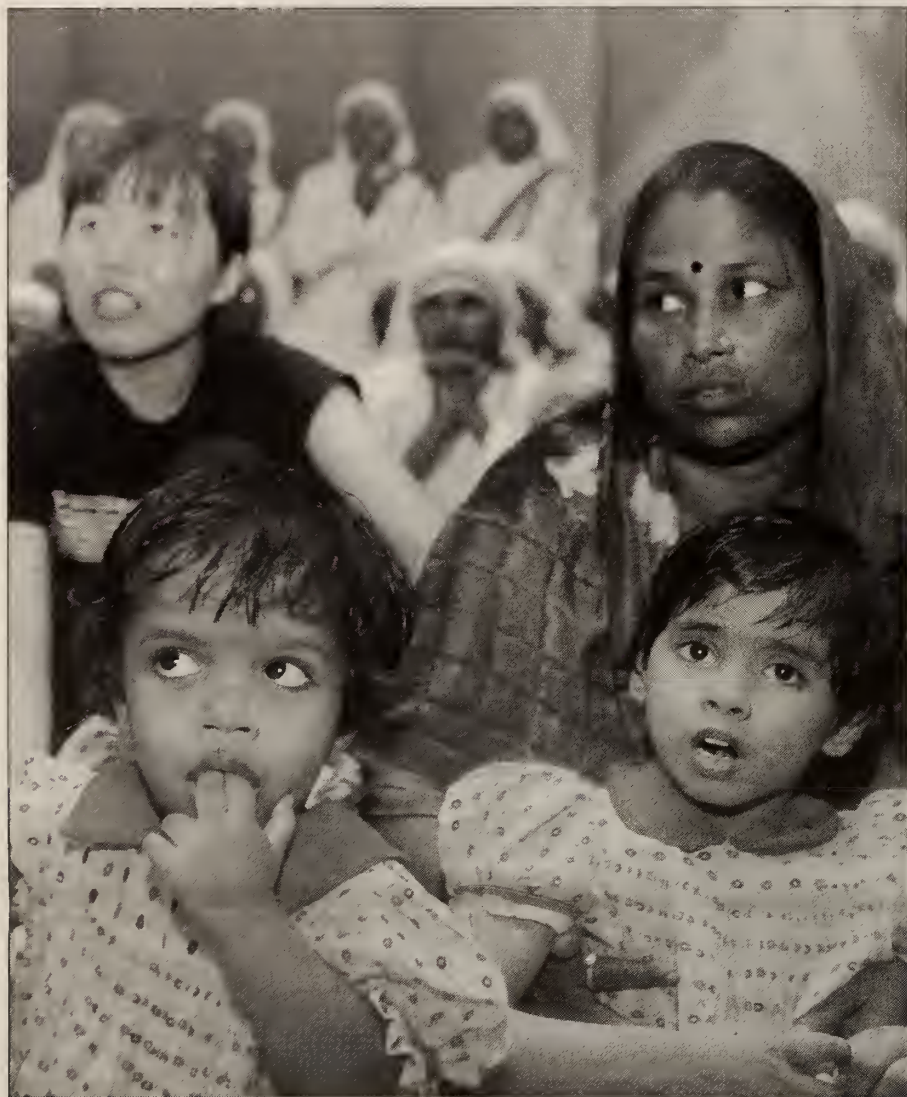
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# In Brief

Current and upcoming topics from around the world to your own backyard

## ORPHANS, NUNS MARK ANNIVERSARY OF MOTHER TERESA'S DEATH



CNS PHOTO FROM REUTERS

Orphans gather with members of the Missionaries of Charity for special prayers at the tomb of Mother Teresa on the sixth anniversary of her death at the order's motherhouse in Calcutta Sept. 5. Mother Teresa, founder of the order and Nobel Peace Prize laureate, will be beatified by Pope John Paul II at the Vatican Oct. 19. Beatification is a key step toward sainthood.

## Bishops ask India to make holiday for Mother Teresa's beatification

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — India's Catholic bishops have asked the country's prime minister to declare a national holiday Oct. 19, the date of the beatification of Mother Teresa of Calcutta.

Archbishop Vincent Concessao of New Delhi, vice president of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of India, met with Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee in late August to discuss a variety of proposals in connection with the beatification.

Archbishop Concessao said the holiday was appropriate because "Mother Teresa was loved and respected by all Indians for her work among the poor."

Her beatification, he said, should be welcomed by India's Catholic minority as an opportunity to introduce others to Catholicism and to "the Gospel message of love and compassion" which motivated Mother Teresa's work.

Archbishop Concessao said the bishops are still waiting for Vajpayee's response regarding the holiday, as well as his authorization for the state-run television network to broadcast the beatification ceremony live from the Vatican.

The bishops' conference also asked the government "to celebrate the great event by instituting a national award for social workers in honor of Mother Teresa," which would inspire others "to live a life dedicated to the poorest of the poor."

According to the conference, New Delhi already has decided to rename Willington Crescent Road in the capital as "Mother Teresa Road" and to erect a statue of the nun at one end of the street.

Archbishop Concessao said the central event in the archdiocese Oct. 19 would be a "fellowship meal with the poor and neglected of the capital."

## First African-American named president of a U.S. pontifical faculty

BY CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Dominican Father Reginald Whitt is the first African-American to hold the presidency of a pontifical faculty in the United States, according to a statement from the Dominican House of Studies in Washington.

He was appointed president of the Pontifical Faculty of the Immaculate Conception at the Dominican House of Studies, effective Aug. 29. It is one of 10 such U.S. faculties, which are institutions of higher education established and regulated by the Holy See and empowered to grant pontifical bachelor, licentiate and doctorate degrees.

Dominican Father Dominic Izzo, provincial of the Dominican Province of St. Joseph and vice chancellor of the faculty, made the appointment. The

Dominican House of Studies is the center of theological studies for the New York City-based province.

A native of Baltimore, Father Whitt made his profession of vows as a Dominican in 1971 and was ordained a priest in 1976. He studied theology at the Dominican House of Studies and Yale Divinity School in New Haven, Conn., and earned a licentiate and doctorate in canon law at The Catholic University of America in Washington and a doctor of laws degree at Duke University Law School in Durham, N.C.

Father Whitt was a professor at the University of St. Thomas School of Law in Minneapolis, and also taught at the law schools of the University of Notre Dame, Duke University, the University of Kentucky and Villanova University. He has written many articles and frequently lectures on canon law.

## Diocesan planner

### ALBEMARLE VICARIATE

ALBEMARLE — *The Daughters of Mary* will meet Sept. 17 at 1 p.m. and every third Wednesday of the month at Our Lady of Annunciation Church, 416 N Second St. Call (704) 485-4526 for details.

### ASHEVILLE VICARIATE

ASHEVILLE — St. Eugene Church, 72 Culvern St., will host a workshop on *Creative Aging* on Sept. 19 at 10 a.m. Presenter Richard von Stamwitz is a National Certified Gerontological Counselor and offers programs on aging well. For registration and information, call Sandra Breakfield at (704) 370-3220 or Gerry Carter at (828) 254-5193.

### BOONE VICARIATE

NORTH WILKESBORO — St. John Baptist de La Salle Church, 275 C.C. Wright School Rd., will have its *parish picnic* on Sept. 20 at 2 p.m. Bring a side dish to go along with their hamburgers and hot dogs. For details, call (336) 838-5562.

### CHARLOTTE VICARIATE

CHARLOTTE — *Pathfinders*, an interfaith peer support group for separated or divorced people, meets Tuesday evenings 7:30-9 p.m. at St. Gabriel Church, 3016 Providence Rd. The first session, which runs through Dec. 6, features new

materials and presentations. For more information, please call Wayne at (704) 896-0900.

CHARLOTTE — The *Charlotte Compass* group will have a discussion and potluck dinner with Father Larry LoMonaco Sept. 16 at 7 p.m. at 738 Shawnee Dr. Father LoMonaco will discuss the history of the Catholic Church. For more information on Compass, visit <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/compassnc/>.

HUNTERSVILLE — *Natural Family Planning* classes are held the third Wednesday of every month at 7 p.m. at St. Mark Catholic Church, 14740 Stumptown Rd., Room 200. Classes are taught by Dr. Matthew Harrison. All are welcome to attend, no registration required. Call (704) 948-0231 for directions and more information.

CHARLOTTE — The *St. Maximilian Kolbe Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order* invites you to join in praying the rosary for peace on Sept. 21 following the 5 p.m. Mass at St. Thomas Aquinas Church, 1400 Suther Rd. People throughout the world will pray together as part of Franciscans annual international day of peace, a day of global ceasefire and nonviolence. For details, call (704) 549-1607.

CHARLOTTE — St. Luke Church, 13700 Lawyers Rd., will present "*Artists in Re-cital*" Sept. 21 at 7:30 p.m. This free concert will feature Anna Jane Uzzell, mezzo-soprano; Marti Dushak, flute & keyboard; Tom Dushak, guitar; Jill Fung, cello; and Michelle Metz, flute. They will perform selections from Bach's "St. Matthew Pas-

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## FROM THE VATICAN

## Vatican diplomat appeals for ratification of nuclear test ban treaty

VIENNA, Austria (CNS) — The community of nations has the ability and must find the courage to rid the world of nuclear weapons, a Vatican diplomat said.

Trying to ensure peace by holding on to the threat of nuclear weapons "cannot be the type of peace we seek for the 21st century," said Msgr. Pietro Parolin, the Vatican's undersecretary for relations with states.

The diplomat represented the Vatican at the Sept. 3-5 meeting in Vienna of the international conference on the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty.

Msgr. Parolin told delegates that Pope John Paul II sent him to Vienna "to renew his appeal for a common and generous effort for peace and security."

Global ratification and enforcement

of a ban on testing nuclear weapons would contribute to preventing the proliferation of nuclear weapons and eventually to nuclear disarmament, which would enhance international peace and security, he said.

Delay in ratifying the ban "inevitably increases the risk that nuclear testing will resume and nonproliferation will be much harder to sustain," Msgr. Parolin told the conference.

The international treaties and conventions seen as "the pillars of the global arms control and reduction regime" must be strengthened, he said.

"Close international cooperation and a multilateral approach are essential in order to face the threat posed by weapons of mass destruction," Msgr. Parolin said.

sion," Bizet's "Carmen," Rossini's "Semiramide," Bernstein's "Mass" and Broadway favorites. A reception will precede the concert at 7 p.m. Call (704) 545-1224, ext. 16 for more information.

CHARLOTTE — St. Thomas Aquinas Church, 1400 Suther Rd., will host an *Ultreya* Sept. 21 at 1:30 p.m. There will be a family potluck and childcare will be available. For more information, call Dan Hines at (704) 544-6665 or visit [www.charlottecursillo.org](http://www.charlottecursillo.org). To receive Cursillo information via e-mail contact [bmayer@alltell.net](mailto:bmayer@alltell.net).

CHARLOTTE — *Our Babies Remembered* ... a memorial prayer service for babies lost through miscarriage, stillbirth or newborn death will be held on the Feast of the Guardian Angels, Oct. 2 at 7:30 p.m. at St. Matthew Catholic Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy. Families who have experienced such a loss are invited to attend as we remember the brief though precious lives of their children. For information, please call Tracy Webb at (704) 543-4780. Sponsored by the Elizabeth Ministry and the Bereavement Ministry of Compassion.

## GASTONIA VICARIATE

BELMONT — Queen of Apostles Church, 503 North Main St., will host its annual *Fall Festival* Sept. 27 9 a.m.-10 p.m. Activities will include a craft fair, games, bingo and casino. There will be lots of family fun, food, fellowship and community building. For details, please call the church office at (704) 825-9600.

GASTONIA — An *interfaith prayer vigil for peace* will take place Sept. 29, 7-8 p.m. at Tabernacle Baptist Church, 519 19th St. Come pray with people of all faiths as they gather together to ask the Lord for peace in our time. For more information, please contact Tabernacle Baptist Church, 704-864-4051, or Dennis Teall-Fleming, director of faith formation at Queen of Apostles Catholic Church, Belmont, at (704) 825-9600, ext. 26, or [teallfleming@yahoo.com](mailto:teallfleming@yahoo.com)

## GREENSBORO VICARIATE

GREENSBORO — *The Greensboro Council of Catholic Women* will have its annual fall luncheon on Sept. 24. For more information call (336) 288-6022.

GREENSBORO — Our Lady of Grace

Church invites all former parishioners and students to the celebration of its *50th anniversary*. The reunion weekend will be Oct. 10-12. For information, please send names (including maiden names) addresses, phone numbers and e-mail addresses to 201 S. Chapman St., Greensboro, N.C. 27406 or e-mail [olgchurch@olgchurch.org](mailto:olgchurch@olgchurch.org).

## HICKORY VICARIATE

HICKORY — This year's *Catholic Scripture Study* (CSS) is a series of 28 in-depth, yet easy to understand, Bible studies of the Gospel of John. Written by noted contemporary Scripture scholars, we will discuss the Gospel of John verse by verse. Weekly meetings are one & a half hours, consisting of small group discussion and lecture. Starting on September 24th, meetings will be on Wednesday evenings or Thursday mornings. CSS is a wonderful opportunity to better know the Lord and his Word, the Bible. Please pick up a flyer at the posters in the halls, e-mail [stalscss@charter.net](mailto:stalscss@charter.net), or call Ann Miller at (828) 441-2205.

## SALISBURY VICARIATE

SALISBURY — *School of Leaders* will meet at Sacred Heart Church, Sept. 27 9-11:30 a.m. There will be a secretariat meeting 1-2:30 p.m. For more information, call Dan Hines at (704) 544-6665 or visit [www.charlottecursillo.org](http://www.charlottecursillo.org). To receive Cursillo information via e-mail contact [bmayer@alltell.net](mailto:bmayer@alltell.net).

## SMOKY MOUNTAIN VICARIATE

FRANKLIN — Father Mathew Kauth teaches seminarian Justin Grosnick's class on *how to better understand the Bible* by reading it in a historical context. This method developed by Jeff Cavins places the books of the Bible in the greater perspective of salvation history. Classes are held at St. Francis of Assisi Church, 299 Maple Street, at 6:30 p.m. For details, please call (828) 524-2289.

Please submit notices of parish events for the diocesan planner at least 15 days prior to the event date in writing to Karen A. Evans at [kaevans@charlottediocese.org](mailto:kaevans@charlottediocese.org) or fax to (704) 370-3382.

## Interreligious relations: More than the conflicts making headlines

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — To judge by the headlines, it's been a long hot summer for interreligious relations.

A string of bombings, shootings and other acts of violence have been attributed to radical Muslim groups. Whether it's carnage at an Iraqi mosque, talk of "jihad terrorism" in India or the rise of Islamic militancy in Bangladesh, the impression is that Muslims are being radicalized around the world.

Vatican officials watch TV, too. They are disheartened by the violence and worried that what are essentially acts of political extremism will be laid at the doorstep of religion.

"There aren't that many extremists. Most Muslims want peace, but they want peace with justice," English Archbishop Michael Fitzgerald, president of the Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue, said in early September.

At the same time, Archbishop Fitzgerald acknowledged that recent world events — in particular the war in Iraq — have caused a reaction throughout the Islamic world.

"Right now, I think the Muslim

world is being divided. There's a great tension within the Muslim community. In some parts of the Islamic community, there's a sense of frustration and a tendency to express that frustration in violence," the archbishop said in an interview.

"But there are many who are against this violence," he added.

Part of the problem, in the view of Vatican officials, is that the media focuses almost exclusively on the acts of violence and rarely on the quiet stories of peaceful coexistence. The fruits of dialogue are not as visually compelling as a bomb crater or a burned-out church.

In the face of recent acts of violence, the archbishop said, the architects of interreligious dialogue have vowed to keep repeating their mantra: "Violence is not approved by religions, religions should be factors of peace, and the perpetrators of violence in the name of religion are in fact offending against religion."

They know their message won't make the headlines, but they hope it eventually makes a difference.

## BLESSING OF THE BIKES



CNS PHOTO BY SAM LUCERO, CATHOLIC HERALD

Father Mike Hammer blesses Harley-Davidson cyclist Dave Hinman of Brown Deer, Wis., during a bike blessing following an outdoor Mass at St. Rita Church Aug. 31. Milwaukee's Harley-Davidson Co. celebrated its 100th anniversary with parades, bike blessings, and outdoor Masses throughout the Milwaukee area. The events drew some 200,000 cyclists from around the world.

## DID YOU KNOW?

## ST. PATIENS

Patiens was named bishop of Lyons, Gaul, about 450, during an invasion of Burgundy by Goths. He helped alleviate the horrors of famine by feeding thousands at his own expense. Patiens built and repaired many churches and was known for his asceticism, missionary success and aid for the poor. He fought against Arianism and helped restore peace to the Diocese of Chalon-Su-Saone at the invitation of St. Euphonius of Austun after the death of its bishop precipitated serious disagreements. He ordered Constantius, a priest in his see, to write the life of St. Germanus of Auxerre, which became well known. Patiens died around the year 480. His feast day is Sept. 11.



# Catholic Daughters tackle leadership, recruitment ideas

BY KEVIN E. MURRAY  
EDITOR

**HICKORY** — The North Carolina Catholic Daughters of the Americas are looking to enhance their image and recruit new members.

Approximately 80 members of the 12 state courts attended a leadership seminar at the Catholic Conference Center Aug. 15-17.

"We talked about leadership and membership — recruiting and keeping members — and evangelization," said Lucille Kroboth.

Kroboth, a parishioner of 'Our Lady of the Assumption Church in Charlotte and past Catholic Daughters state regent, has been a member for 53 years.

"It was educational and interesting to learn about leadership styles with emphasis on consideration of others, praise, delegation, problem setting, planning, communication and goal setting," she said.

There are a dozen Catholic Daughters courts (chapters) in North Carolina — six in each of the two dioceses. All are involved in a variety of religious, charitable and educational efforts on the local, state and national levels.

Since 1956, the state's Catholic Daughters have met every other year for a conference that is part business meeting, part spiritual retreat. This gathering was not part of their biennial convention.

"This seminar was something new to try and get new members," said Ruth Carlisle, a parishioner of St. Patrick Cathedral in Charlotte and state treasurer.

"It's very difficult to get new people involved," said Kroboth. "The older members are keeping things going. Young women don't have a lot of time. It's very hard to be in the workforce and have children."

The seminar was conducted by Sally Rytlewski, national third vice regent from New York; and Lucretia Coates from Maryland and Kathleen Dolan from Massachusetts, facilitators from the national leadership team.

"(They) conducted an outstanding seminar," said Kroboth. "They gave us new concepts on how to make meetings



COURTESY PHOTO

Sally Rytlewski, national third vice regent of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas, and Kathleen Dolan and Lucretia Coates, facilitators from the group's national leadership team, offered a seminar to the N.C. Catholic Daughters at the Catholic Conference Center Aug. 15-17.

more inviting. They told us what we have to offer and how to go about it."

"It was wonderful," said Carlisle. "Everyone was enthused to get back and get new members."

From its inception in 1903, Catholic Daughters of the Americas has grown

and developed into the largest organization of Catholic women in the Americas. Headquartered in New York with 100,000 members in the United States, Guam, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands, Dominican Republic and Mexico, the Catholic Daughters of the Americas'

purpose is to help the church in its religious, charitable and educational works.

The organization, open to Catholic lay and religious women 18 years of age or older, supports Covenant House, which provides shelter and services to homeless and runaway youths; Support Our Aging Religious, a national agency that helps religious orders meet retirement needs; Holy Cross Family Ministries; the U.S. bishops' Apostleship of the Sea; Teachers of Exceptional Children in conjunction with the National Catholic Educational Association; Morality in Media; Catholic Relief Services; and Habitat for Humanity.

It also provides scholarships and support for seminarians.

The Junior Catholic Daughters of the Americas, the national program for girls ages 6-18, was founded in 1925.

The Catholic Daughters of the Americas marked the centennial of the organization's founding during a Mass celebrated June 22 in New York's St. Patrick's Cathedral by Cardinal Edward M. Egan of New York. The cardinal acknowledged a century of benevolence contributed by the group's members and praised them for their important role as daughters of the church.

A Mass will also be celebrated at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington on Oct. 18. Kroboth and Carlisle said members of the North Carolina Catholic Daughters are planning to attend.

## WANT MORE INFORMATION?

For more information on the North Carolina Catholic Daughters, contact Ruth Carlisle at (704) 532-8515.



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# Conference will discuss social justice, morality

BY JOANITA M. NELLENBACH  
CORRESPONDENT

ASHEVILLE — Even those who aren't catechists can delve into Catholic social teaching and moral issues at Catechetical Conference 2003: "Sowers of God's Peace."

The conference will be held at St. Eugene Church on Saturday, Sept. 20. Sponsored by the Asheville Vicariate Faith Formation Team (AVFFT), the event is part of Level II of the Catechist Recognition Process.

Along with the annual Catechist Oasis Retreat and catechist recognition dinner, the catechetical conference is one of three activities the AVFFT sponsors each year.

"The diocese provides opportunities for catechists to increase their knowledge of the faith," said Elizabeth Girton of the AVFFT. "They can take classes in Level II, even if they haven't finished Level I."

Those involved in the Catechist Recognition Process will earn credit for one of the Level II tasks for attending the conference.

However, any Catholic in the diocese can attend "Sowers of God's Peace."

"They don't have to be catechists to come to the workshop," Girton said. "It will benefit them because it will update their knowledge of what the Catholic Church teaches about social justice and morality."

Glenmary Father John Rausch, director of peace and justice for the Diocese of Lexington, Ky., will be the keynote speaker.

"I will [talk] about personal witness, but also a corporate witness, standing against the prevailing tide of quick-fix violence and might-makes-right militarism," Father Rausch said.

"We are a people and a church of compassion. When others demand revenge, we forgive; we call to accountability brothers and sisters lost in selfishness and self-righteousness."

"Peace ultimately is solidarity with others, as Christ became incarnate in solidarity with all creation," he said. "Christians must respect their prophetic traditions. The Gospel sets the standard, philosophy and practical living try to refine the ideal, and each person will live out the Gospel accordingly."

Following Father Rausch's presentation, attendees will break into small groups for discussion and sharing. The groups' topics are "The Person and Mission of Jesus," "At the Heart of Catechesis," "Catholic Social Teachings" and "Contemporary Moral Issues."

## WANT TO GO?

The conference will be held Sept. 20, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., at St. Eugene Catholic Church in Asheville. Registration is \$15 and includes lunch. Attendees should register by Sept. 17 to ensure lunch will be available for them. Register by calling Elizabeth Girton at (828) 282-8816 or via e-mail at [faithformation@bellsouth.net](mailto:faithformation@bellsouth.net).

**Directions to St. Eugene:** From Interstate 240 in Asheville, take the Merrimon Avenue exit. Go north (turn right) on Merrimon to Ingles grocery store. Turn right at the traffic light at Ingles. Turn left at the next street-Culvern Street. St. Eugene is at the end of the street. If assistance is needed with directions the day of the conference, call 828-279-4498.

# Bishop-designate Jugis honored at parish fiesta



PHOTO BY STEPHEN UZZELL

Rev. Mr. Edwin Rodriguez stands with Bishop-designate Peter J. Jugis at the Our Lady of Lourdes Church parish fiesta at Belk Tonawanda Park in Monroe Sept. 7. Approximately 500 parishioners attended the gathering, at which Bishop-designate Jugis was honored and presented plaques and gifts from the parish's Hispanic and Anglo communities and the Knights of Columbus. The Anglo community pledged one year of eucharistic adoration every Saturday night for one year to pray for Bishop-designate Jugis' intentions.

## THIS MONTH IN — 1992

Nine churches in the Asheville Vicariate celebrated 500 years of evangelization in the Americas during a special prayer service and veneration at the Basilica of St. Lawrence Sept. 13. The service featured the Quincentenary Cross, a replica of the cross that Christopher Columbus planted in San Salvador in 1492, and which subsequently was carried to every island and the mainland by Spanish explorers and missionaries. Pope John Paul II presented the replica crosses to the bishops of the Americas in 1984.

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# Bishop Gregory reaffirms celibacy in response to Milwaukee petition

BY SAM LUCERO  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

MILWAUKEE (CNS) — Changing the discipline of clerical celibacy would not assure increased vocations in the Catholic Church, according to Bishop Wilton D. Gregory, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Bishop Gregory's comments came in an Aug. 29 letter addressed to Archbishop Timothy M. Dolan of Milwaukee.

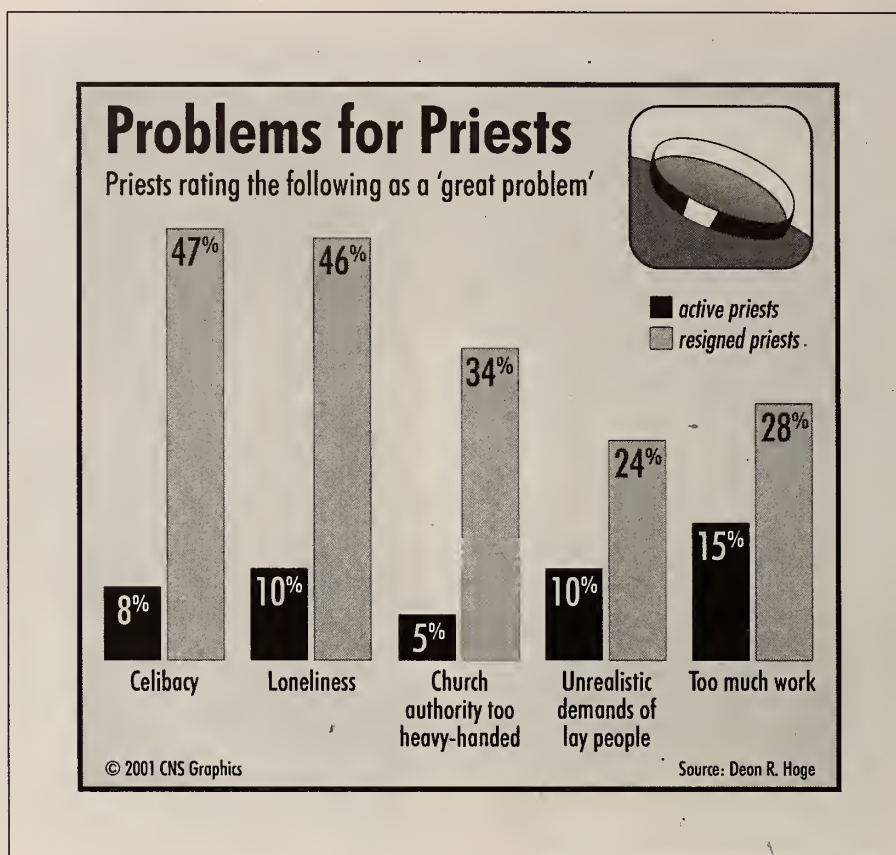
The letter, made public Sept. 4, was in response to the Aug. 16 letter signed by 163 priests of the Milwaukee Archdiocese and mailed to Bishop Gregory Aug. 19. In that letter, written and circulated by Fathers Thomas Suriano, Joseph Aufdermauer and Steven Dunn, the priests urged that "diocesan priesthood now be open to married men as well as to celibate men."

"The vitality of the church in the United States today owes much to the tens of thousands of priests who in previous generations were and today are faithful to the commitment of chaste celibacy and who have found it to be a powerful spiritual means to draw closer to Christ," Bishop Gregory wrote.

The Milwaukee priests said their primary motive for seeking a change in the church's discipline on celibacy was based on their "pastoral concern that the Catholic Church needs more candidates for the priesthood, so that the church's sacramental life might continue to flourish."

In his "Herald of Hope" column in the Sept. 4 issue of the Catholic Herald, archdiocesan newspaper, Archbishop Dolan thanked Bishop Gregory for his "thoughtful and compelling response" and said he concurred with it "wholeheartedly."

He disputed the impression given



by some that "as an archbishop and a so-called 'Vatican loyalist,' I have to support the church's tradition of priestly celibacy, but that my heart, as the hearts of most other bishops, is really not in it."

"This impression is simply wrong," Archbishop Dolan said. "I enthusiastically and confidently embrace my own celibate commitment, and believe it a providential blessing for priests and for the church. ... It is not some stodgy Vatican 'policy' that has been 'imposed,' but a gift savored for millennia."

Bishop Gregory, who heads the Diocese of Belleville, Ill., said that while

he shares the letter writers' pastoral concerns changing the celibacy rule does not mean priestly vocations would increase.

"I must confess that it is by no means clear that, as their letter states, a change in the discipline of clerical celibacy would necessarily bring about an increase in the numbers of candidates for priesthood," he wrote.

He cited the experiences of Protestant churches, which allow married clergy. "A number of studies in recent years indicate that denominations such as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, the Presbyterian Church (USA) as well as other mainline churches with married clergy have also faced a shortage of ministers," said Bishop Gregory.

Bishop Gregory said that the USCCB does not act on matters of concern to local dioceses. "Accordingly, I think it is appropriate for my response to be directed to you," he wrote to Archbishop Dolan.

He added that local concerns need to be presented to the USCCB through its bishop members.

The three priests met privately with Archbishop Dolan Sept. 2 at his residence. During their meeting, the archbishop gave the three priests copies of Bishop Gregory's letter.

In an interview with the Catholic Herald following the meeting, the priests said they could not comment on Bishop Gregory's letter until they had time to study it.

Father Suriano described the meeting with Archbishop Dolan as a "very open and respectful conversation."

All three priests said their letter, which was endorsed by six additional priests since the packet of letters was mailed to Bishop Gregory Aug. 19, has

struck a chord among Catholics.

"The most touching part of this whole experience has been priests that I do not even know, from far as well as near, calling and just unburdening at how overworked they are and how they wished they had some (priest) help," said Father Suriano.

Father Aufdermauer said he would like to see a formal process begin to discuss the clergy shortage.

"We do not have enough priests to have Mass, anointings, hear confessions," he said. "Somehow, somewhere it seems we are forgetting that problem. I don't believe, if the church would change this (celibacy rule) tomorrow that we would have a glut of priests. But I think we would have more who would be willing to become priests. It's our love of the church that's making me speak out. If anybody else has a better solution, please let them speak."

Father Dunn said there is historical precedent in the church for married clergy. "To me, it's the best of both worlds. You can have celibate clergy and married clergy. My hope is that there really will be serious dialogue at higher levels," he said.

"I firmly believe that someday we will have optional celibacy for diocesan priests," said Father Aufdermauer. "It won't be in my lifetime, but it will happen. I think the sense of the laity that I'm getting is, 'What's holding it back?'"

Father Aufdermauer said the pope's decision to allow married Protestant ministers to be ordained Catholic priests is not a source of confusion.

"I think Catholics are saying, 'Way to go, Holy Father, you're leading the way,'" he said. "I believe our Holy Father's a brilliant man and I think he's telling us something by allowing the converts to continue the priesthood as married men."

While about a third of the Milwaukee Archdiocese's priests signed the letter to Bishop Gregory, the majority did not. Among the latter group was Father Jeff Haines, moderator of the Archdiocesan Council of Priests, who offered several reasons for not endorsing the letter.

"My concern was the consequences of how it would play in the press," he said. "My fear was that the press would get a hold of it and turn it into a large issue and give the impression that there is dissension among the ranks of priests."

Father Haines said he does not believe that is what the letter's promoters intended to happen. As the media portrayed it, "this was another instance of the church in crisis and since we had gone through enough crises already, I really didn't want to see that happen," he said. "There is so much good happening in the Catholic Church."

Nathan Reesman, a seminarian for the archdiocese, said he would not have signed the letter.

"I think for people my age who are coming into seminary ministry, there is a lot of feeling that we kind of moved beyond this question and are committed to it and would like to focus our energies on other things," he said. "I don't want to delegitimize the hard work these priests do, but I don't think I agree with it."

## Celibacy is a gift, not a burden

BY KAREN A. EVANS  
STAFF WRITER

CHARLOTTE — With the Milwaukee priests' letter advocating that married men be permitted to join the priesthood, the question of allowing Roman Catholic priests to marry, or allowed married men to become priests, could become a source of contention in the church.

According to Pope John Paul II, a person only has one vocation, whether to be married, single or a member of the clergy. The sacraments of holy orders and marriage are considered to be permanent. Except for under extraordinary circumstances, only an unmarried man, a widower or a man whose marriage has been annulled may receive the sacrament of holy orders.

"It's easy to talk about married clergy, but we also have to consider what kind of impact it would have on a diocese," said Father John D. Hanic, pastor of St. John Baptist de la Salle in Wilkesboro.

Once married, Father Hanic's marriage was annulled prior to his ordination in 1983. His son, Father Johnathan M. Hanic, is parochial vicar of St. Leo the Great Church in Winston-Salem. Father-son priests are so rare that a spokesman for the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops said he has heard of only one other similar case.

"There may be a place in the priesthood for married and women clergy, but we have to abide by the rules," said Father Hanic.

"Celibacy is a gift from our Lord to be received in poverty of spirit and lived out in joy," said Bishop-Designate Peter J. Jugis.

"Celibacy is not a burden. It is a commitment that we make as priests on our own. It is part of the process of the priesthood," Father Hanic said.

Contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans by calling (704) 370-3354 or e-mail [kaevas@charlottediocese.org](mailto:kaevas@charlottediocese.org).



# Church celebrates decades of growth



PHOTO BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

Bishop-designate Peter J. Jugis distributes Communion at the 40th anniversary celebration Mass of St. Francis of Assisi Church in Jefferson Sept. 6.

## CELEBRATION, from page 1

meeting in the early 1950s for Mass, before there was a Catholic church in Ashe County.

"We had Mass in the courthouse, motels; anywhere we could," she said.

Mass was said on a portable altar in living rooms, basements and other places by Diocese of Raleigh priests who traveled in from North Wilkesboro.

When the number of participating Catholics grew to about 30, Bishop Vincent Waters of Raleigh arranged for the purchase of a Presbyterian church. St. Francis of Assisi Church was dedicated Aug. 27, 1963.

Priests of the Glenmary Home Missioners came to serve the parish.

"The Glenmarys have staffed this parish for more than 30 of the last 40 years," said Father Lawlor. "There's this

continuity in pastoral leadership — each pastor has a certain job to do and we build on what's come before."

"The 10 years I've spent here were some of the most joyful memories I've ever had," said Father Hautz, who was pastor from 1988 until 1998. "The church really grew while I was here."

The congregation was growing so much that expansion became necessary. In 1984, donations by parishioners and the Catholic Extension Society helped fund an addition on the church basement, including a social hall, offices, meeting rooms, a kitchen and restrooms. Bishop John F. Donoghue, then-bishop of the Diocese of Charlotte, dedicated the hall Sept. 25, 1985.

"It has taken us years and years to grow," said Parsons. "Tourists would pass through, but now they're buying homes and staying."

"We've seen tremendous growth in



PHOTO BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

Glenmary Father Roland Hautz, Bishop-designate Peter J. Jugis, Father Mark Lawlor and Father C. Morris Boyd are among the priests celebrating the anniversary Mass Sept. 6.

our Anglo and Hispanic communities," said Thomas. "Of course there are language barriers, but spiritually, we're one church."

Father Boyd said there are 250 registered households in the parish, but approximately 1,500 Hispanics living in Ashe County year-round that are served by the church.

"We have 5,000 Hispanics here for the (Christmas tree) harvest in October and November," he said.

At the regular Saturday Mass in Spanish, "We have probably 150-200 Hispanics, sometimes more, such as on the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe," said Jaime Sevilla, director of Hispanic Ministry for Boone Vicariate.

At the end of the Sept. 6 Mass, Sevilla presented an award on behalf of the parish's Hispanic community to Father Waters, who celebrated the first Mass in Spanish at the church. Father Waters, former pastor of Holy Trinity Church in Taylorsville, celebrated year-round Masses in Spanish at St. Francis of Assisi.

After the Mass, parishioners retreated to the hall downstairs for food prepared by members of the Hispanic

community. Bishop-designate Jugis and the other priests joined the parishioners at the cross-shaped tables outside.

"It's very nice that Bishop-designate Jugis is here with us," said Father Lawlor. "It's a joyful time for all of us."

"Anniversaries are important — they give us a context of looking back at our beginnings, especially Catholicism in Ashe County, and it gives us great hope and joy," he added.

"It shows how the mission of this parish's community, that started over 40 years ago, has grown and developed and embraced all immigrants to the mountains," said Father Boyd, "not only the retirees, but the Hispanic immigrants as well."

Contact Editor Kevin E. Murray by calling (704) 370-3334 or e-mail [kemurray@charlottediocese.org](mailto:kemurray@charlottediocese.org).

## WANT TO KNOW MORE?

For more on the history of St. Francis of Assisi Church in Jefferson, please see the Parish Profile on page 16.

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## LOOKING BACK



CNS PHOTO COURTESY RICHARD COHEN

## Priest ministers to woman near trade center Sept. 11, 2001

Maryknoll Father Raymond Nobiletti ministers to an injured woman just prior to the collapse of the south tower of the World Trade Center Sept. 11, 2001, in New York. The pastor of Transfiguration Church was one of the first priests on the scene after the attacks. The reflections of priests on how they responded to the events of that fateful day are collected in a new booklet published by the Secretariat for Vocations and Priestly Formation of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

## Priests' response to Sept. 11

RESPONSE, from page 1

continue to surface.

For the past two years, Father Edward Burns, executive director of the bishops' Secretariat for Vocations and Priestly Formation, has been collecting these stories of priests on the scene at ground zero and ministering at New York City hospitals, the Pentagon and at the crash site at Shanksville, Pa.

As he sees it, these men were simply "doing what priests do best — bringing people to God and bringing God to people."

Their stories are told firsthand in a booklet compiled by the secretariat and called "We Were There ... Catholic Priests and How They Responded."

And, according to Father Burns, the booklet, released Aug. 29, "is by no means complete." The day it was released, he was faxed another story from a priest and he is sure he will continue to receive many more.

The booklet contains first-person stories of 17 priests, most of whom were in New York, but also of those who ministered at their home parishes

or at the scene of the plane crashes in Washington and Pennsylvania.

It opens with the words of Father Kevin Smith, pastor of St. Francis de Sales in Patchogue, N.Y., and chaplain with the Nassau County Fire Department, who made sure that Father Judge's body was placed on the altar of nearby St. Peter's Church.

The priest prayed in the first pew of the church where medical personnel were treating the wounded and firefighters came to pay their respects to the deceased chaplain. Before long, Father Smith knew he had to return to the site of the twin towers and help however he could.

"I heard a lot of confessions that day and many of them, including the ironworkers, were asking for a blessing when they saw me. Throughout the night I worked on the pile shoulder to shoulder with police, fire and medical rescue," he wrote.

Father Smith was hardly the only priest on the scene of what was later dubbed ground zero. Priests who worked in the city or were accustomed to emergencies as police and fire chaplains rushed into the chaos to help or simply listen. And in the days immediately after, they celebrated Mass at

## Pope says religions must help restore shattered hopes for peace

BY CINDY WOODEN  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — When the twin towers in New York fell after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, many people's hopes for a future of peace also fell, Pope John Paul II said.

"Peace cannot be built on mutual ignorance, but on dialogue and encounter," the pope said in a message to a Sept. 7-9 interreligious meeting on peace sponsored by the Rome-based Sant'Egidio Community.

The meeting in Aachen, Germany, was the community's 17th international gathering designed as a follow-up to Pope John Paul's 1986 gathering of religious leaders in Assisi, Italy.

In 1986, the pope said, "the world was still divided in two blocks and oppressed by the fear of nuclear war. Seeing how urgent was the need people felt to once again dream of a future of peace and prosperity for all, I invited believers from the world's diverse religions to gather in prayer for peace."

Unfortunately, the pope said, the yearning for peace expressed at the Assisi gathering was not acted upon quickly or carefully enough.

"In these years too little has been invested to defend peace and to support the dream of a world free from wars," he said.

Instead, the pope said, too many leaders chose the path of developing special interests and spending money on other priorities, particularly on military weapons and machinery.

"In a few days we will remember the tragic attack on the twin towers of New

York," he said in the message read to the gathering Sept. 7 and released at the Vatican the next day.

"Unfortunately, together with the towers, many hopes for peace also seem to have crumbled," Pope John Paul wrote.

War, conflict and terrorism continue to sow death and fear, he said.

Meetings such as those sponsored by Sant'Egidio offer a realistic response, the pope said. They show the power of prayers for peace and demonstrate the willingness of religious believers and non-believers to get to know each other and to work together to overcome tension.

"In a divided world, which is increasingly pushed toward separations and particularities, there is an urgent need for unity," he said. "People of different religions and cultures are called to discover the way of encounter and dialogue."

The more people get to know, understand and respect each other, he said, the more able they will be to "disarm the violent and call them back to reason and respect."

Pope John Paul told the leaders of the world's major Christian communities and churches that he prayed efforts to promote Christian unity would increase.

"The scandal of division can no longer be supported; it is a repeated 'no' to God and to peace," he said.

Addressing the Jewish, Muslim, Buddhist and other non-Christian leaders present, the pope encouraged increased efforts to recognize each other as children of the same God and to promote mutual respect.

"The world needs peace," he said.

ground zero, prayed with people and heard many confessions.

Father Jeff Ethen, a priest from the Diocese of St. Cloud, Minn., who was vacationing in New York, joined other priests and religious at St. Vincent's Hospital Sept. 11, assisting family members looking for loved ones. The next day, he and a fellow Minnesota priest were assigned to a chaplain team working with the city's missing persons' bureau.

Father Ethen, who said he had a "lifetime of crisis ministry in those first two days," looked countless family members in the eyes and "told them to go home" and to "stop looking." He wrote that the first time he did this was tough and "it never became easier."

Each day for two weeks after the attacks, Mill Hill Missionary Father Emile Frische, coordinator for special ministries with the New York Archdiocese, helped lead a prayer session for family members of Cantor Fitzgerald, a trading company that lost 80 percent of its employees Sept. 11.

He also ministered at ground zero and at one of the city morgues. But not all of his ministry involved speaking. At a morgue one night he asked a firefighter sitting on an upturned bucket if he wanted to talk. Since the firefighter didn't feel like talking, the priest simply pulled up another upturned bucket and sat with him.

"After a good long time he got up, turned to me and said, 'Thank you, Father,' and left," the priest wrote.

Many of the priests profiled in the booklet acknowledge that they were not doing anything particularly laudable, but instead fulfilling their roles as priests.

"I don't pretend to have done anything unusual or heroic following the events of Sept. 11, 2001," wrote Father John Kozar, national director for the Pontifical Mission Societies in the United States, who spent the week after the attacks visiting firehouses and talking to people on New York City streets.

"I feel blessed that Christ placed me in this circumstance as a priest to be able to offer consolation to those who were hurting," he wrote.

And Father David Baratelli, chaplain of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey at Newark International Airport in Newark, N.J., said that when he thinks back to that time of celebrating Masses, offering sacraments and consoling families of the dead, he cannot think of a moment more profound than "just being with God's people in their need."

*Editor's Note: The booklet is not being offered for sale but is available on the U.S. bishops' Web site at: <http://www.usccb.org/vocations/wewerethere.htm>.*



# Research paper documents effects of Sept. 11 terrorist attacks

BY CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

ST. LOUIS — If a goal of terrorism is to make victims feel less in control of their own destinies, the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, succeeded, according to research from St. Louis University.

The study, published this year in the *Journal of Gerontology: Social Sciences*, is the first to compare people's attitudes before and after the attacks.

"Most people raised within the Judeo-Christian tradition believe that life is at least relatively fair," said Fredric Wolinsky, former professor at St. Louis University School of Public Health and lead investigator on the study. "They believe that if you work hard, you can succeed. The attacks of Sept. 11 changed that for many people.

"In a sense this demonstrates that the attacks were successful," said Wolinsky, who was recently appointed to the John W. Colloton chair in health management and policy at the University of Iowa. He said the terrorist attacks "changed deep-seated psychological assumptions."

Wolinsky, who did his research while at the Jesuit-run St. Louis University as a professor of health management and policy, said it usually is impossible to study the effects of a traumatic event like the terrorist at-

tacks of Sept. 11, because researchers can't collect baseline data about how participants felt before the attacks.

"You have to know ahead of time when an attack will occur," he said. "Only the attackers know that, and they're not going to do a study."

Wolinsky's research was made possible only by coincidence. His team already had begun an investigation of how patients with illnesses such as chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, congestive heart failure and asthma felt about their lives.

Participants were asked questions about their mental health, levels of personal stress and feelings of control over their lives.

"We saw an opportunity to gauge how this event changed people's feelings about their lives," he said.

While feelings of personal stress and mental well-being did not change, participants were much more likely to report that they disagreed with statements such as "I am responsible for my own successes" and "my misfortunes are the result of mistakes I have made" than they were prior to Sept. 11, 2001.

Researchers from the St. Louis Veterans Affairs Medical Center, the Indiana University School of Medi-

cine, the Regenstrief Institute for Health Care in Indianapolis and the Richard L. Roudebush VA Medical Center in Indianapolis also participated in the study.

The study, based on older adults receiving health care in Indianapolis and St. Louis, included an initial interview and six bimonthly follow-up interviews with 1,662 patients. Of these, 437 had the opportunity to complete only three interviews, and 291 of them completed all six interviews.

The study revealed no noticeable changes in personal stress or mental health after the Sept. 11 attacks, but did reveal a decline in sense of control that was greater among those who were working for pay, had more comfortable incomes and reported greater religiosity.

In determining why the terrorist attacks altered patients' sense of control, the researchers concluded that a "sense of control is a representation of the patient's view of the just world perspective." The researchers concluded that an event of the magnitude of the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks "would likely be viewed as a shocking violation of the just world perspective, especially among a cohort predisposed to claim responsibility for their own suc-



CNS FILE PHOTO BY BOB ROLLER

A woman reflects at a makeshift memorial on a plot of grass across from the destroyed section of the Pentagon Sept. 18, 2001.

cesses and failures."

Wolinsky said the findings are even more striking given that most subjects were 50 or older, an age at which people's fundamental attitudes about the world tend typically not to change.

"Somebody's sense of control is usually fixed by their early 30s," he said. "As people get older, an isolated event doesn't rattle them much. This is an exception."

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CNH8/8-8/22





# Culture Watch

A roundup of Scripture, readings, films and more

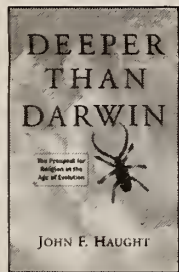
## Turning Darwin's theory into a theology of evolution

REVIEWED BY WAYNE A. HOLST  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

In "Deeper Than Darwin: The Prospect for Religion in the Age of Evolution," John F. Haught continues to construct what he calls a theology of evolution.

Haught, a Catholic theologian and a specialist in the study of religion and science at Georgetown University in Washington, believes that we suffer from a "reading problem." Both science and religion attempt to "read" the meaning of the cosmos. Rather than claiming one reading is right and the other wrong, Haught says that we need to value both and to dig deeper, beneath the current explanations from scientists and theologians, to see the essential compatibility and mutual contribution of both approaches.

"After Darwin," says Haught, "theology and science, though quite different in their respective methods, can become



"Deeper Than Darwin: The Prospect for Religion in the Age of Evolution," by John F. Haught. Westview Press (Boulder, Colo., 2003). 214 pp., \$26.00.

partners in taking the long human quest for truth into deeper and darker territory than it had previously ventured."

Instead of fighting Darwin, Haught proposes that theology steep itself in Darwin's imposing vision. He says that because of Darwin's vision we now see the universe not as something trapped in a fixed design, but rather as an adaptive process and an exciting, unfolding story.

At the same time Haught encourages scientists to rediscover religion. He advises they move away from seeing it as an illusion or crutch and instead see that religion can come closer than science to determining what is really going on in the unfinished story of the universe.

Darwin's theory of evolution has stood the test of time. In a nutshell, it declares that all living beings descend, by way of gradual modification over the course of history, from less complex forms. The explanation of this gradual modification and the emergence of new species is natural selection: Those organisms most able to adapt to their environments are "selected" by nature to survive and to produce offspring.

Haught believes that religion and

science should agree to learn from each other. Evolutionary theory does not discount past or present religion; it can actually help people find a deeper understanding of the sacred. Religion, no less than other living systems, can evolve. It must undergo constant revision, over time, in order to remain alive.

Evolutionary theism disallows any competition between science and religion. Science cannot displace religion because, no matter how much science contributes to human progress, the big questions about God never go away. We wonder about what is going on in the universe and if there is any point to it all. We ponder why we are here and how we should live.

The author challenges both religion and science to jointly envision the cosmos as a rich repository of deep meaning. "I believe a good place to start is with our new evolutionary awareness that we live in an unfinished universe," he says. The universe is a story in the process of being told. Evolutionary narrative clearly implies that the cosmos is still coming into being — that it is moving in a purposive direction and carrying a promise. It is within that promise that the evolving universe finds its evolving meaning.

Haught is a careful thinker whose challenging insights reward those willing to take the time and make the effort. These thoughtful people are unsatisfied when issues of faith and life are confined to separate domains. They believe science and religion belong together as integrated realities.

*Holst is a parish educator who has taught religion and culture at the University of Calgary.*



### THE ORATORY

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## WORD TO LIFE

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS: SEPT. 14, 2003

### Sept. 14, Exaltation of the Holy Cross

#### Cycle B Readings:

- 1) Numbers 21:4b-9  
Psalm 78:1-2, 34-38
- 2) Philippians 2:6-11
- 3) Gospel: John 3:13-17

BY JEFF HENSLEY  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

Jim Wacker, a former TCU football coach, died of cancer this summer. He hadn't been in this area since he left to coach the University of Minnesota team in the mid-'80s. But you'd think he'd never left from the front-page story recounting his life and the many columns written by those who remembered him and sought to honor him.

This Sunday is designated for the exaltation of the Holy Cross. Jesus left heaven to bring us forgiveness and salvation. He didn't have to, except to be obedient to the Father's will. And so the crucifixion, history's most tragic moment and humanity's event of greatest shame, became at the same time the doorway to eternity for those Jesus came to save — sinners like us.

We know that, don't we?

But some of us live like we know

it at a deeper level. That's why Jim Wacker was remembered this week.

Jim Wacker took TCU from a long string of losing years (they were tied with Slippery Rock for the longest string of losses at one time during this period) to being in the top 20, having a Heisman contender ready to earn that spot with 1,000-yard rushing years. Just as he was achieving that level of success, Wacker was forced by his integrity to turn in his own team for under-the-table payments to players extending back years and years. His honesty resulted in such stinging NCAA restrictions on the football program that he referred to it as the "living death" penalty.

Only at his own death did we learn that he had continued to love and be in contact with the players who had caused the downfall of this great football team. Many of those players, the very ones who had taken the illicit payments from overzealous TCU alumni, were quoted as holding no grudges and esteeming him above all their other coaches, from college to the professional ranks.

Jim Wacker internalized both cross and resurrection, lived his faith, suffered disgrace and was, in the end, revered by all. May we do as well.

## WEEKLY SCRIPTURE

### SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 14 - SEPTEMBER 20

**Sunday (Exaltation of the Holy Cross)**, Numbers 21:4-9, Philippians 2:6-11, John 3:13-17; **Monday (Our Lady of Sorrows)**, 1 Timothy 2:1-8, John 19:25-27; **Tuesday (Sts. Cornelius and Cyprian)**, 1 Timothy 3:1-13, Luke 7:11-17; **Wednesday (St. Robert Bellarmine)**, 1 Timothy 3:14-16, Luke 7:31-35; **Thursday**, 1 Timothy 4:12-16, Luke 7:36-50; **Friday (St. Januarius)**, 1 Timothy 6:2c-12, Luke 8:1-3; **Saturday (Sts. Andrew Kim Taegon, Paul Chong Hasang and companions)**, 1 Timothy 6:13-16, Luke 8:4-15

### SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 21 - SEPTEMBER 27

**Sunday (Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time)**, Wisdom 2:12, 17-20, James 3:16-4:3, Mark 9:30-37; **Monday**, Ezra 1:1-6, Luke 8:16-18; **Tuesday**, Ezra 6:7-8, 12, 14-20, Luke 8:19-21; **Wednesday**, Ezra 9:5-9, Luke 9:1-6; **Thursday**, Haggai 1:1-8, Luke 9:7-9; **Friday (Sts. Cosmas & Damian)**, Haggai 1:15-2:9, Luke 9:18-22; **Saturday (St. Vincent de Paul)**, Zechariah 2:5-9, 14-15, Luke 9:43-45

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## 'The Order' should be returned



CNS PHOTO FROM 20TH CENTURY FOX

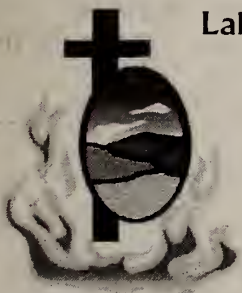
Heath Ledger stars in "The Order," a problematic supernatural thriller about a maverick Catholic priest (Ledger), who travels to Rome in order to hunt down the sole remaining practitioner of an arcane medieval ritual known as "sin eating," a rite by which a person can receive absolution without recourse to sacramental confession. The film is full of egregious theological distortions and bogus stereotypes targeted at painting the church and its clergy as callous, corrupt and ultimately the root of all evil. A warped view of church doctrine, a shadowy sexual encounter with partial nudity, a suicide, recurring violence including ritual murder, and sporadic rough and crude language, as well as profanity. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is O — morally offensive. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is R — restricted.

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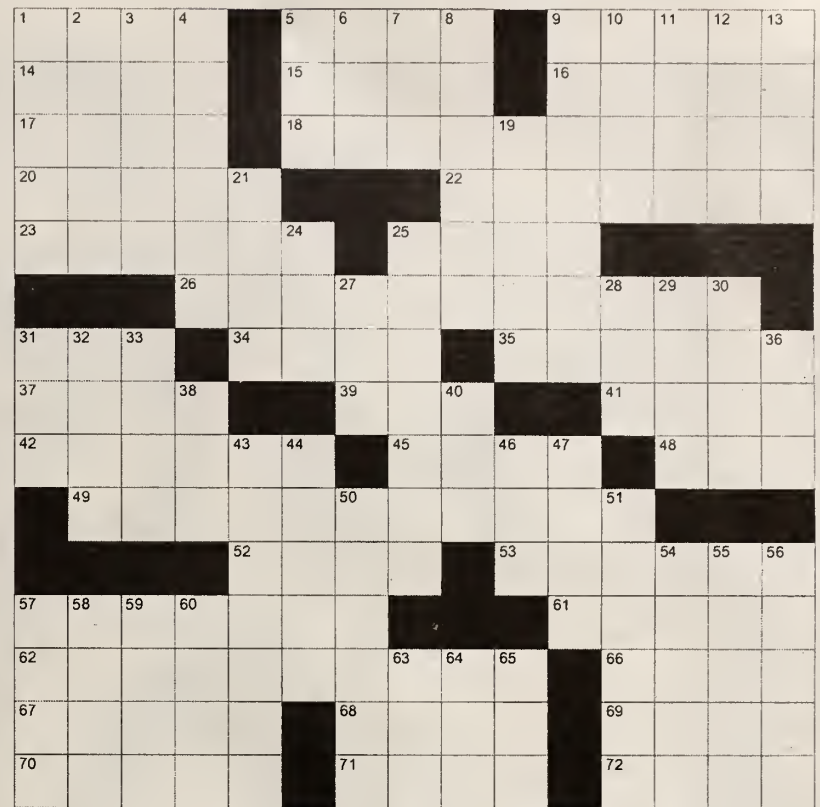
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### BY THE NUMBERS



#### ACROSS

- 1 Assns for lawyers and bankers
- 5 Throw out
- 9 Cain's son
- 14 Music (Bryan Ferry group)
- 15 Continent
- 16 Abram's wife
- 17 Jazz artist Vijay
- 18 8 of 8
- 20 New York Bay island
- 22 1990 Kevin Bacon movie
- 23 Seed or street
- 25 Sound Emission (abbr)
- 26 1 of 10
- 31 Television network
- 34 Bird
- 35 Argentine city Santiago del
- 37 Type of opera
- 39 Water barrier
- 41 Exclamation of sorrow
- 42 Evaluate
- 45 Shindig
- 48 Record albums
- 49 7 of 7
- 52 French illustrator
- 53 Pays for the meal
- 57 Corrupt
- 61 American pianist
- 62 7 of 7
- 66 Femme fatale
- 67 Norwegian Petroleum grp.
- 68 True
- 69 Lay out a garden patch (Span.)
- 70 Medieval musical instrument
- 71 Jedi Master
- 72 Que

#### DOWN

- 1 Ram
- 2 Lara Flynn
- 3 Ice skating jumps
- 4 Maronite rite language
- 5 Smear
- 6 Exploit
- 7 Mamma
- 8 American general
- 9 Cherishes
- 10 Gabo (Russian sculptor)
- 11 Ecclesiastical calendar
- 12 Castle (Welsh)
- 13 Serpent's greeting
- 19 Muslim decree
- 21 Haze
- 24 Flightless bird
- 25 Vendible
- 27 Medical abbr.
- 28 Greek letter
- 29 Rescued by Dudley Do-Right
- 30 Snare
- 31 Scouting org.
- 32 Pear
- 33 Maria's house
- 36 Dutch city
- 38 Energy
- 40 More (Span.)
- 43 Pitching style
- 44 Maelstrom
- 46 Rest
- 47 Racing org.
- 50 Blood vessel
- 51 Begins a tennis match
- 54 "It's \_\_\_\_\_ and precious chain" (Jethro Tull)
- 55 Judah's daughter-in-law
- 56 Above (prefix)
- 57 Units of pressure (abbr.)
- 58 Apiece
- 59 Process for Catholic converts
- 60 Dutch woman
- 63 Matrix hero
- 64 Bit
- 65 Patty Hearst's kidnappers

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## TV WATCH

## 'Joan of Arcadia' worth a look



CNS PHOTO FROM CBS

The stars of the new CBS show "Joan of Arcadia" are (from left) Joe Mantegna, Mary Steenburgen, Jason Ritter, Amber Tamblyn and Michael Welch.

## CBS on the right track

BY ANNE NAVARRO  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

*Editor's Note: Look for reviews of other networks' fall line-ups in following issues.*

NEW YORK (CNS) — CBS seems to have found a replacement for its ever-popular "Touched by an Angel" in the wonderful "Joan of Arcadia." The program is likely to attract fans of "Touched" as well as a younger crowd with its winning young star, Amber Tamblyn.

The rest of CBS's new programming is filled with shows that stick with the tried and true formula of law-enforcement story lines which, although they break no new ground, are not too shabby. The one exception to this is the inane Charlie Sheen sitcom "Two and a Half Men," for which quick channel-changing remote controls seem to have been invented. And David Kelley's new drama, "The Brotherhood of Poland, N.H." (Wednesdays, 10-11 p.m. EDT), was undergoing late casting changes; an episode was not available for review.

### CBS's new fall series at a glance:

— "Cold Case," Sundays, 8-9 p.m. EDT.

Philadelphia detective is assigned to old cases after a new clue comes to light years later that may help solve the mysteries.

Some Interest: The drama is pretty dark in parts and predictable as well as very liberal with its crass dialogue, but it holds the viewer's attention, and lead

Kathryn Morris is believable and appealing.

— "Two and a Half Men," Mondays, 9:30-10 p.m. EDT.

Charlie Sheen plays a brash bachelor whose life is turned upside down when his recently separated brother and young nephew come to live in his swanky pad.

Don't Bother: Sheen has played this character to death, and tedious writing and the sitcom's telegraphed jokes don't help.

— "Navy NCIS," Tuesdays, 8-9 p.m. EDT.

Mark Harmon stars in the action drama about a team of special agents who investigate crimes connected in any way to Navy and Marine Corps personnel.

Some Interest: Best described as a marriage between "CSI" and "JAG," the drama keeps the viewer's interest, but may be crowded out by so many similarly themed shows.

— "Joan of Arcadia," Fridays, 8-9 p.m. EDT.

Drama in which a young teen-age girl begins to have conversations with God, who appears to her in various human forms, like a teen-age boy or the cafeteria lunch lady, and asks her to do specific things, such as getting a job.

Good Bet: Well-written and striking the right balance between spiritual and earthly concerns, the drama is likely to attract the "Touched by an Angel" crowd as well as a younger audience with the engaging Amber Tamblyn as the teen.

## Red Mass to be celebrated in Charlotte

CHARLOTTE — A Red Mass will be celebrated at St. Gabriel Church Oct. 5.

The Red Mass is an annual event celebrated to coincide with the opening of the U.S. Supreme Court's judicial calendar.

The celebration of Mass is designed to provide all attending members of the legal community — judges, prosecutors, attorneys, law school professors, governmental officials — the opportunity to reflect on the God-given power and responsibility that are a part of their offices. Together, Red Mass participants ask God to grant all the members of the legal community the virtues and gifts necessary for the proper and just administration of their duties.

"The Red Mass is a special, public occasion to thank God for our laws and our rights, and to ask his favor in applying those laws with justice," said Will Esser, a local attorney organizing the Charlotte event.

A number of Supreme Court justices, including Antonin Scalia, Anthony Kennedy and Clarence Thomas, participate in the event in Washington each year.

It is called "red" due to the color of the vestments traditionally worn by the priests celebrating the Mass, a tradition started in Europe in the 13th century. The original celebrants would wear red

to signify the fire of the Holy Spirit's guidance to all who pursue justice in their daily lives, according to [www.redmass.com](http://www.redmass.com).

The Red Mass was introduced into the United States in 1928 in the Church of St. Andrew, located in New York City. Cardinal Patrick Hayes, who strongly encouraged and supported the involvement of the legal community in spreading God's Word, presided over the Mass.

The Red Mass has not been previously celebrated in Charlotte. Abbot Placid Solari, abbot of Belmont Abbey, will celebrate the Mass. Esser has worked with other local Catholic lawyers to identify approximately 75 Catholic attorneys in Charlotte, and has sent them invitations to participate. Esser is also inviting Catholic leaders in local government and other areas of law.

"The significance of the Red Mass cannot be overstated," said Will Esser, a local attorney organizing the event. "In this day and age, it is easy to forget that our rights derive from God, rather than from government."

### WANT TO GO?

The Red Mass will be celebrated at St. Patrick Cathedral at 3 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 5.

## Classifieds

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## WORKER JUSTICE

# Upcoming workshop to benefit laborers

BY JOANITA M. NELLENBACH  
CORRESPONDENT

SYLVA — The Smoky Mountain Vicariate is helping workers to understand their rights. The vicariate will present the Workers' Rights Workshop at St. Mary Church Sept. 27.

Funded through a grant from the Christian Brothers FSC Foundation, the workshop is part of the vicariate's ongoing series on justice issues.

Speakers are Francisco Risso, director of the Western North Carolina Workers' Center in Morganton and a parishioner at St. Charles Borromeo Church; and Dr. Nolo Martinez, director of North Carolina Hispanic/Latino Affairs in Raleigh.

Designed to help workers, whether immigrants or lifelong U.S. residents, feel less vulnerable, the workshop will teach them about their working rights and ways to lobby and organize around work issues. Parish community life commission members, faith formation teachers and anyone interested in social justice issues can also benefit from the workshop.

In the morning, Risso will address, in Spanish, federal and state labor laws, filing complaints with government agencies and applicable Catholic social teaching. He will repeat the presentation in English in the afternoon.

Martinez's morning presentation, in English, will focus on equal opportunity, civil-rights laws, legislation to protect workers and ways to lobby and organize around solutions to issues. In the afternoon, he will speak on these topics in Spanish.

Following the afternoon presentations, a discussion session will center on how Catholics should respond to worker issues.

Organizing may refer to unions, Risso said, but "can also be workers just getting together to have a collective voice. It can be in the context of a church community and the wider community."

"Most of the unions in western North Carolina are made up of native North Carolinians; there hasn't been a lot of outreach to the immigrant community," he said. "The church's social teaching is about workers' rights to organize.

The economy should serve the workers, not workers serve the economy."

Risso's remarks echo the U.S. bishops' message, "Labor Day, 2003: Re-committing to Justice for Farm Workers," which states: "Our Catholic teaching tells us that the economy, including the agricultural sector, must serve people and not the other way around. Work is more than a way to make a living, and farming is one pre-eminent example of our participation in God's creation. Catholic teaching on the dignity of work calls for us to engage in productive work and supports the right to decent and fair wages, health care and time off. Workers, including agricultural workers, have a right to organize to protect these rights and to have a voice in the workplace."

"The overall point that I'd like to make is that people are able to work for change if they make their concerns known," Risso said. "As Catholic Christians, we have an obligation to support that. In North Carolina, there's a stigma against labor unions. Workers have the right to organize. I think that it's to the benefit of workers to find out how labor unions work. Communities can hold companies accountable for the way they treat workers."

## WANT TO GO?

The Smoky Mountains Vicariate will present the Workers' Rights Workshop 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 27, at St. Mary Church in Sylva.

The registration fee is \$10 and includes lunch. Registration deadline is Sept. 22. For more information, contact Mary Herr, faith formation consultant for the Smoky Mountain Vicariate, at (828) 497-9498 or maryherr@dnet.net; or Eduardo Bernal, the vicariate's Hispanic ministry coordinator, at (828) 497-0586 or eduarbrnl@aol.com.

Directions to St. Mary Church: From U.S. Highway 74, take exit 83. Turn left and follow the road into Sylva. Turn right on Dillsboro Road. The church is about 1/4 mile on the left.

# Catholic schoolteachers gear up for in-service day

CHARLOTTE — The Diocese of Charlotte will hold a Catholic Schools In-service at St. Gabriel Church Sept. 26.

Dominican Father Jim Marchionda, vice provincial of his order's Midwest province, will be the guest speaker.

"Father Marchionda will offer a unique presentation combining music, preaching and prayer, helping all present to not only focus on kids and

the church — which we always do — but also to embrace a new moment of grace," said Mercy Sister Maureen Meehan, director of religious formation for schools.

Father Marchionda, a composer, conductor, singer and woodwind instrumentalists, has offered parish missions, retreats, concerts, lectures and diocesan workshops throughout the United States and abroad for over 25 years.

# Couples celebrate marriage jubilees

MARRIAGE, from page 1

quite enough love for all of us, for Jesus is in this very room," the St. Margaret Church Choir sang after communion.

"Our faith and our trust in God," is what has made Al and Blanche Triunfo's marriage work, Blanche said. "That really has brought us through everything — sickness and joy. Trust in God and forget about the little things."

Faith, and sharing "the love of God," have kept Ron and Terri Van Dyck's marriage strong, Terri said. "You need God's guidance. Not a day goes by that we don't pray."

The 50th anniversary celebration was conceived about two years ago when several of the couples were spending some time together and realized they had all been married in 1953.

"As time went on, we thought we should check and see if anybody else was having a 50th anniversary," Terri Van Dyck said.

She asked Ann Ketchum, the church secretary, to research the parish registry. They were amazed to discover that 13 couples would have 50th anniversaries in 2003.

About 85 parishioners joined the jubilant couples following Mass for a celebration at a local restaurant. The head table was adorned with flowers and the couples' wedding pictures.

"It doesn't seem that long," said Don White of the 50 years since he and his wife, Winnie, posed for their wedding photo. "The predominant thing is love, then understanding and forgiveness, accepting each other's weaknesses. Day after day with five children, we learned to live with a lot of ups and downs, ins and outs, and we grew with that. Struggling through and praying through the bad times."

"We enjoy each other's company," Winnie White said. "Faith is the focal point. It really determines a lot of our behavior, how you live your life."

None knew what they would face in the years after those wedding pictures were taken.

Terri was 17 and Ron Van Dyck was 19 as they held hands in their portrait and smiled down at Terri's wedding band.

"We got a lot of flack: 'Oh, it'll never work out,' ... but Ron and I fell in love," Terri said.

Five decades and six children later, it obviously has worked out.

"We worked together," Terri said. "We've had disagreements — it clears the air and then you get back to loving each other. We loved each other even when we were mad. If something bothers you, clear the air; otherwise, it festers and causes other problems."


Al Triunfo said he and his wife

never "go to sleep mad. I always kiss Blanche good night. Even if we have an argument during the day, we make up. When I come upstairs, even if she's asleep, I still kiss her."

For Grace Savaria, a good marriage involves "humor, being able to laugh at yourself," and coming to ac-

## Newlywed Issues

Top problems faced by primarily Catholic couples married five years or less.



Couples citing this as a problem	
Expectations about household tasks	79%
Frequency of sex	77
Balancing job and family	75
Financial situation	72
Husband's employment	58
Debt brought into the marriage	54

Source: Center for Marriage and Family, Creighton University

© 2001 CNS Graphics

cept that nobody's perfect.

"Years ago, a priest said something about accepting the dandelions in everybody's yard," Grace said. "Everybody has dandelions; you never get them all out, so learn to live with them."

George Savaria talked about the "loving relationship" he and Grace have: "It just gets better and better."

"He's my best friend," Grace said.

Contact Correspondent Joanita M. Nellenbach by calling (828) 627-9209 or e-mail jnell@dnet.net.

## DIOCESE TO CELEBRATE WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

CHARLOTTE — The Diocese of Charlotte's annual Mass celebrating 25th and 50th wedding anniversaries will be held at St. Gabriel Church in Charlotte at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 26.

The newly ordained Bishop Peter J. Jugis will celebrate the Mass, sponsored by the Family Life program of Catholic Social Services. The event will allow celebrating couples to renew their vows and recommit themselves to one another.

If you are celebrating a 25th or 50th wedding anniversary this year and have not received an invitation, please call (704) 370-3228.



# Perspectives

A collection of columns, editorials and viewpoints

## Sowers of God's peace

### *Catechists called to be witnesses*

### Guest Column

FATHER  
JAMES HAWKER  
VICAR, EDUCATION



Jesus Christ, when addressing the disciples on the mount of Ascension, reminded them that an essential component of the Catholic Church's mission is that of catechesis. His statement, "Teach them everything I have commanded you," is to be implemented faithfully if the church is to fulfill its role responsibly.

In parishes throughout the diocese, children and youth are meeting each week so they might be touched and transformed by the person and message of the risen Lord. As Pope John Paul II has observed, "The purpose of catechetics is to assist the believer not simply to know Jesus, but to become intimate with Him." Its goal is to inform the mind and form the heart so the attitudes and actions of the hearers will manifest that they are becoming friends, disciples and witnesses of Jesus Christ.

I never cease to be impressed and inspired by the countless men and women who hear and heed the call of the Catholic Church that they teach as Jesus did. Thousands of generous parishioners serve selflessly week after week so that the youngsters in their care might be formed in the faith.

Recently, I participated in a session conducted for the catechists at St. Luke Church in Mint Hill. On that occasion, 70 parishioners gathered, 15 of whom were preparing to teach in the program for the first time. The level of enthusiasm exhibited by these people was electric. The awareness that they were to be companions on the faith journey for those whom they would teach was obvious.

Undoubtedly, the majority had not heard the words of Pope Paul VI: "People today don't believe teachers, they believe witnesses. If they do believe teachers, it is because they are witnesses." Yet, it was abundantly clear that they appreciated the significance of that statement.

During the session, I requested the attendees respond to two questions. The first was: "Why did you accept the invitation to be a catechist?" Among the responses were the following: "God called me"; "I feel that I am blessed and want to share my love for God"; "God has done great and wonderful things in my life. I found this is a way to give back to Him for all He has done for me"; "I

think that we cannot ask children to live a certain life if we are not willing to teach them by example and by teaching itself"; "The greatest gift one can give a child is teaching God's Word"; "For me personally, it gives me real purpose in life."

These testimonies manifest so powerfully the quality of faith that motivates ordinary people to perform an extraordinary ministry in the name of Jesus and in the power of His spirit. These truly insightful responses indicate the devotion and dedication exemplified by good and generous men and women who are committed to speak the truth in love.

My second question was: "When the year is over, what is the one thing you hope the children you taught will say about you?" I'm confident you will agree the answers are truly inspiring: "That I truly care and show God's love"; "That I helped them to know and love God"; "Maybe not right away, but at some point in their lives, I hope they will look back and say, 'That teacher really made a difference in my life'"; "That I led by example"; "My teacher loved God and helped me encounter Him at faith formation." I hope they remember me as someone who helped them deepen their faith; "She loved to pray and share her faith. She explained things so well."

The theme of this year's Catechetical Sunday is "Sowers of God's Peace." That simple statement summarizes so succinctly the privileged vocation of catechists. As witnesses of that peace, they assist the maturing believers to acknowledge and appreciate the depth of God's love, the uniqueness and value of their lives and the necessity of their manifesting their love for God and neighbor by what they say and do.

This diocese is blessed beyond measure as countless catechists, including those serving in St. Luke Parish, echo faithfully the message of Jesus, who is the Way, the Truth and the Life. It is so important that you and I never cease to remember in prayer these "Sowers of God's Peace."

*Father James Hawker is the diocesan vicar of education and pastor of St. Luke Church in Mint Hill.*

## Pope says God intervenes to purify sinners, not destroy them

BY JOHN NORTON.  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — God sometimes enters human history to unmask evil and defend victims, not in order to destroy sinners but to purify them and offer them a new existence in him, Pope John Paul II said.

"The goal of God's action is never destruction, pure and simple condemnation, and obliteration of the sinner," he said Sept. 10 at his weekly general audience.

"After purification through trial and suffering, the dawn of a new era is about to rise," he said.

The pope, continuing a series of talks on the Liturgy of the Hours, highlighted a canticle from the Book of Ezekiel describing how God purified his chosen people from the sin of idolatry.

The pope said God does not stand idly by in the face of evil but "enters mysteriously on the scene in human history with his judgment that, sooner or later, exposes evil, defends victims and

## The Pope Speaks

By CATHOLIC  
NEWS SERVICE



indicates the path of justice."

After purification and liberation from evil, sinners are offered the "stupendous" gift of God's own spirit and a new existence in him, the pope said.

About 11,000 people in St. Peter's Square huddled under umbrellas in a light rain to listen to the pope. The 83-year-old pontiff, who returned for the audience from his summer residence outside Rome, looked tired and had great difficulty speaking.

The next day, he was scheduled to fly to Eastern Europe for a four-day visit in Slovakia.

## When a rocky period threatens a marriage

It was a bit of a risk to inject a sad, although beautiful, story into the wedding homily I gave at Holy Trinity Church in Washington, my last wedding as pastor there.

I keep thinking of the readings Trisha Morrow and Matt Madden selected for their July wedding. I'm also thinking of a letter I received just before leaving Holy Trinity. I took the risk of quoting from it in my words to the couple.

The letter was from a woman I do not know, a parishioner who wrote to wish me well and tell me a story of how, without knowing it, I had touched her life. She explained that she and her husband were married at Trinity in 1974. "Like most long unions," she wrote, "we encountered a rocky period in our marriage, leading to a separation in July 2000. In December 2000, he approached me about a reconciliation."

She said she reacted to that proposal with "pain and anger" but "was also very undecided." The next Sunday she "attended Mass where you gave a sermon on forgiveness. You gave me much to think about." Shortly thereafter, she said, she began meeting with her husband to begin "talking and exploring our mistakes."

The woman wrote, "Forgiveness is not an easy, instant accomplishment, and I owe you a great appreciation for opening my eyes to that."

Her letter went on to relate that "in the summer of 2002, we traveled to Ireland to celebrate my 50th birthday. Unbeknownst to me, he had arranged with a local priest for us to renew our vows. It became the highlight of our trip and an opportunity for us to renew our devotion to each other with Christ's blessing." She added that two months later her husband died in a cycling accident. "Although our reconciliation was short, I am indebted to

## Looking Around

BY FATHER  
WILLIAM J.  
BYRON, SJ  
CNS COLUMNIST



you for teaching me the importance of forgiveness and love in my life."

Trish and Matt had selected Colossians 3:12-17 for their second reading: "Because you are God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with heartfelt mercy, with kindness, humility, meekness and patience. Bear with one another; forgive whatever grievances you have against one another. Forgive as the Lord has forgiven you."

In my words at the wedding, I reminded Matt and Trish that love and forgiveness are one. In Colossians, Paul lists love's central elements. He explains the meaning of love in terms that constitute a charter for a happy marriage. I had in my hand a copy of that Sunday homily of three years ago. From it I read:

"Aware of having been forgiven and yet still needing forgiveness in Jesus Christ, believers should extend to each other forgiveness now and the promise of future forgiveness. That, of course, is what it means to forgive as the Lord has forgiven you."

To that I added Paul's instruction: "And over all these put on love, that is, the bond of perfection. And let the peace of Christ control your hearts, the peace into which you were also called in one body. And be thankful."



## Guest Column

DR. CRIS V. VILLAPANDO  
DIRECTOR,  
OFFICE OF FAITH  
FORMATION



If faith is the ongoing search for meaning, then the U.S. bishops in their pastoral letter, "Our Hearts Were Burning Within Us," are absolutely correct in declaring: "Adult faith formation ... must be the central task [of the] catechetical enterprise becoming the axis around which revolves the catechesis of childhood and adolescence as well as that of old age." (§5)

Moreover, it "... must be situated not at the periphery of the Church's educational mission but at its center." (§42)

From my vantage point, I would add that adult faith formation (AFF) also serves as an antidote to several viruses worming their way into the church. To cite some examples:

Myth No. 1: Twelve years of once-a-week Christian education is sufficient to equip a person for the complexities of modern life.

If people continuously undergo discipleship formation, would the current divorce rate of 56 percent in North Carolina be reduced? Would the U.S. prison population come down from its record high of 2,019,234 inmates? Would the number of nuclear families now at 25 percent bounce back to become once again a "competitive" model in our society?

Myth No. 2: Going to war is a matter of national security and belongs exclusively to political leaders.

## Adult faith formation: Antidote to five myths in the Catholic Church

The raging debate on the just war theory that has recently taken place in the media, while laudable, has been essentially inadequate. Discussions without input from faith communities drowned the voice of the Gospel that mandates love of enemy and use of non-violence to achieve peace.

For 300 years, the Christian martyrs knew the uncompromising nature of that doctrine. It was not until we became part of the Constantinian Empire that we invented the just war theory. But even then, it was historically a theology of reluctance.

Myth No. 3: Adapting the liturgy in the vernacular completes the task of Vatican II renewal.

Translating prayers from Latin is simply a first step. Spirituality goes hand in hand with liturgy and AFF is key to restoring the understanding that will fashion that unity.

Moreover, if Catholics truly believe Christ comes in person every Sunday, why is Mass attendance down to 26.7 percent nationally and as low as 15 percent in the northeast?

Myth No. 4: Knowing the catechism makes a person a good Catholic.

Again, laudable, but we have to recover our tradition of more than 4,000 years: the sacred Scriptures. In the millennial lifespan of the Catholic Church, the catechism is relatively a new tool

(approximately 458 years old) engendered by the Reformation.

The Protestants invented the catechism and Catholics like St. Robert Bellarmine and St. Peter Canisius countered with our own Catholic catechisms. As a result, for many, faith was totally replaced with propositional truths. Tragically, the exploration of the faith of our scriptural ancestors — the patriarchs, prophets, kings, judges, apostles, disciples, etc. — has yet to take center stage.

Myth No. 5: Morality is personal and using one's common sense is totally adequate to make the right decision.

Solutions to moral situations are not always patently obvious. Although Catholic moral principles are clear regarding choosing good over evil, often life situations present dilemmas that obfuscate immediate resolution.

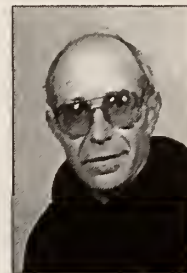
Adult faith formation dealing with bioethics, genomics, globalization, etc., must reflect pastoral sensitivity to the complexities of moral issues and provide guidance faithful to our Catholic tradition.

In conclusion, I would "prophesy" from my crystal ball that adult faith formation is the one, single, biggest educational challenge of the Catholic Church for the next 50 years. AFF is a cornerstone in renewing the life of the Church because of its all-pervasive influence on every aspect of discipleship formation.

## The throw-away people

### Guest Column

FATHER JOHN AURILIA,  
OFM Cap



People who live at the edge of society are not really new or peculiar to our century. Chapter 15 of St. Luke's Gospel speaks about the "throwaway people" in three parables: the lost sheep, the lost drachma and the lost (prodigal) son. What is really peculiar is the fact that Jesus looks for them, rather than simply tolerates them. This behavior infuriated the Pharisees, who loved to divide people into good and bad, beautiful and ugly, healthy and sick, young and old, and worst of all was the "we" and "they." How can Jesus associate himself with sinners? Simply said: "They were important to him!"

The first strike against Jesus was the re-evaluation of the role of the shepherds, who were rejected by the synagogue as dirty and unable to keep the kosher rules. The Bible, however, records David as shepherd elevated to royal prominence. Jesus broke all the barriers when he proclaimed himself the Good Shepherd.

The second parable stresses the powerless people. A woman who lived in a hut was poor indeed, especially if she spent a whole day looking for a coin worth about 25 cents. Even if she possessed 10 such coins, she is labeled as "marginalized," having only \$2.50 as your total asset doesn't make you rich. And her neighbors had a big celebration for finding a quarter?

Our Lord does have a masterful sense of humor. The third parable clearly focuses on the human dimension. The two brothers don't seem to fit the category of throwaway people, however the sin of wastefulness and disobedience makes them "throwaways." The human touch of the good father lifts both of them from throwaway to beloved sons.

How do we convince ourselves that the so-called poor are very important?

All of us can quickly say with whom we would prefer to share dinner, faith or any other intimate or social relationship. Little wonder that even in the most charitable religious acts, categories of exclusions are found. The poor, the uneducated, the ugly, the sick, the disabled, the physically or mentally challenged, are often shunned. We frequently spend all our time creating definitions of sin and miss one of the main points of Jesus as he told these three parables: every person has equal access to God, all have equal opportunity to be loved and to love. The title of this column may be deceiving, because in Jesus' plan there are not throwaway people at all.

## Precepts of the church

*Q. A friend and I were discussing her recent entry into the Catholic faith. When I mentioned the six precepts of the church, which we learned in the catechism in my day, she had never heard of them.*

*Are the precepts of the church still in effect? If they're not the same, where could we find them? (Pennsylvania)*

A. The juridical rights and obligations of all Catholics — clergy, laity and religious — are generally described in one section of the Code of Canon Law (206-223). More specific responsibilities and rights of lay people are spelled out in the following section (224-231).

These regulations reflect what our faith already teaches about our obligation to work together to build and sanctify the body of Christ. They can be briefly summarized as follows.

1. To lead a full sacramental life, especially to participate in the Mass each Sunday and holy day, sharing at the same time in holy Communion; and to receive the sacrament of reconciliation regularly, at appropriate times.

2. To provide suitable religious education for oneself and one's children, especially by use of Catholic schools and

other educational programs.

3. To observe the marriage laws of the church.

4. To strengthen and support the church, the parish community and clergy and the worldwide church with one's talents and material goods.

5. To practice penance and self-denial in the Spirit of Christ, including appointed days of fast and abstinence.

6. To share in the missionary spirit and apostolic work of the local and universal church.

It is just coincidence that this group numbers six. I imagine these duties and rights were discussed with your friend in her preparation for joining our faith, even if not in this exact way.

### Electing a new pope

*Q. We know that when our present pope dies the cardinals will elect the next one. I believe we read that there is an age limit after which cardinals are not eligible to vote for a new pope. Can you tell us what that age is and how many cardinals would be involved in that election? (Texas)*

A. Many present cardinals are well

## Question Corner

FATHER JOHN DIETZEN  
CNS COLUMNIST



up in age, of course, so the number can fluctuate dramatically and quickly. One cardinal, for example, is now more than 100 years old. As this is being written, however, I believe the total number of cardinals is 166. Many are already over the voting cut-off age of 80.

At the last consistory, in February 2001, the pope named 44 new cardinals, the highest number in history, which brought the total to 184, also the largest number since the college of cardinals was begun in the 12th century. Since then 18 of those have died.

After Vatican Council II, Pope Paul VI set a limit of 120 cardinal-electors, the figure still in effect, though the present Holy Father could change that.

Since the present number of cardinals under age 80 is only 109, many believe Pope John Paul will create more cardinals sometime soon.



# St. Francis of Assisi Church is home to growing Catholic population

## St. Francis of Assisi Church

326 East Main Street  
Jefferson, N.C. 28640  
(336) 246-9151

Vicariate: Boone  
Administrator: Father C. Morris Boyd  
Families: 250  
Mission: St. Frances of Rome, Sparta



Father C. Morris Boyd



PHOTO BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

JEFFERSON — The church that would become St. Francis of Assisi was originally built in 1899 as a Presbyterian church.

In the 1950s, the dozen-or-so Catholics of Ashe County were celebrating Mass on a portable altar in living rooms, basements, inns and a courthouse with Diocese of Raleigh priests traveling from North Wilkesboro. When the Catholics numbered about 30, Bishop Vincent Waters of Raleigh saw the need for a church building and the Presbyterian church was purchased for \$12,000 in 1962.

St. Francis of Assisi Church came into being at a formal dedication ceremony Aug. 27, 1963.

St. Francis of Assisi Church in Jefferson was originally a Presbyterian church until being purchased by Catholics in 1962.

Located near the Virginia and Tennessee state lines, the parish began as a mission of St. Elizabeth Church in Boone, with priests of the Glenmary Home Missioners serving there from the mid-1960s until 1999. Today, St. Francis of Assisi is a parish with a mission church of its own — St. Frances of Rome in Sparta.

In the early 1970s, parishioners contributed to building a basement apartment for then-pastor Glenmary Father Robert Cameron.

To keep up with the growing number of parishioners, Glenmary Father John Otterbacher oversaw the

completion of expansion plans that included an addition on the basement level, including offices, a social hall, meeting rooms, a kitchen and restrooms. Bishop John F. Donoghue,

then-bishop of Charlotte, performed a dedication of the new hall on Sept. 25, 1985.

Three years later, Glenmary Father Roland Hautz became pastor. To minister to the growing Hispanic community, Glenmary Lay Missioners Libby Colville and Marilyn Riehle arrived; Glenmary Father Joseph Waters, then pastor of Holy Trinity Church in Taylorsville, began saying Mass in Spanish at the church.

In 1990, a home next to the church was purchased and converted into a rectory, but more space was needed to accommodate the ever-increasing number of parishioners. In September 1994, renovation work was accomplished, complete with a new main altar, Blessed Sacrament table and stained glass windows, all of which were made by St. Francis of Assisi parishioners.

Because of its location in a veritable hikers' paradise, the St. Francis of Assisi congregation grows tremendously during the summer months. Father Hautz, himself an avid hiker, said there are more than 400 miles of marked hiking trails within 90 minutes of Jefferson. Both the Appalachian Trail and the Blue Ridge Parkway pass through Ashe County.

Also popular in the area is the Christmas tree industry. Native to Jefferson is the Fraser Fir, "the Cadillac of Christmas trees" according to Father Hautz.

In 1999, Father Mark Lawlor became the first Diocese of Charlotte priest to pastor the church. He served until 2003, when Father C. Morris Boyd became administrator.

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SEPTEMBER 19, 2003

SERVING CATHOLICS IN WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA IN THE DIOCESE OF CHARLOTTE

VOLUME 12 No 44

## Diverse cultures form one parish

*New Holy Cross  
Church dedicated  
for growing  
community*

BY KEVIN E. MURRAY  
EDITOR

**KERNERSVILLE** — Hundreds of people gathered with Bishop William G. Curlin, bishop emeritus, in the vestibule of the new church.

After Oblate Father Joseph Tustin, pastor, and parishioner Virgil Parrett presented him with the blueprints, occupancy permits and keys to the church, Bishop Curlin knocked on the closed sanctuary doors with his crosier and then led the procession inside.

Bishop Curlin celebrated the dedication Mass of Holy Cross Church along with Father Tustin and other area priests Sept. 13. The Mass was celebrated in English and Spanish, with

See HOLY CROSS, page 9



PHOTO BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

Bishop William G. Curlin, bishop emeritus; Oblate Father Joseph Tustin, pastor of Holy Cross Church; Rev. Mr. Gene Gillif; and other area priests concelebrate the dedication Mass of the new Holy Cross Church in Kernersville Sept. 13.

## Sin of racism

*Indiana bishop calls  
Catholics to action*

...PAGE 4

## Tacos, pizza and French fries: Fast food and immigration patterns

*North Carolina is  
home to many cultures*

BY AGOSTINO BONO  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

**WASHINGTON (CNS)** — With tacos and empanadas joining pizza and French fries as fast food, it's hard to forget that the United States was — and still is — a nation of immigrants.

The difference now is that the immigration flows have changed direction. No longer is the primary flow from Europe. It's from Latin America, mainly Mexico.

One result is that people across the country can now rush their lunch with a burrito — not just a hamburger or a hot dog. Another is that anti-immigration groups have a large and easily identifiable target to aim at: Spanish-speaking immigrants, many of whom may be illegally in the country.

The church attitude toward immigrants is expressed by the title of a 2000 document by the U.S. bishops: "Welcoming the Stranger Among Us: Unity in Diversity."

"For the church the only passport you need is your baptism," said Ronaldo Cruz, executive director of the U.S. bishops' Secretariat for Hispanic Affairs.

The infusion of mostly Catholic Latin Americans has

See IMMIGRATION, page 6



PHOTO BY STEPHEN UZZELL

Children play games after the Mass celebrating the 25th anniversary of St. Thomas Aquinas Church in Charlotte Sept. 14.

## A GROWING FAMILY

### St. Thomas Aquinas Church celebrates silver anniversary

BY STEPHEN UZZELL  
CORRESPONDENT

**CHARLOTTE** — Parishioners of St. Thomas Aquinas Church celebrated a 25-year milestone last weekend.

Nearly 1,500 people gathered to proclaim their faith and joy of community together in "25 Years of Giving Glory to God" Sept. 14.

Bishop William G. Curlin,

bishop emeritus, concelebrated the jubilee Mass with Capuchin Father Ignatius Zampino, pastor; Capuchin Father Vincent Fortunato, provincial of the Capuchin order; Capuchin Father Stanley Kobel, parochial vicar; Capuchin Father Martin Schratz, parochial vicar; Msgr. John

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## Foundation grants

*Money helps parishes, schools*

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## Strength in faith

*Colombian bishop celebrates  
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## Fighting for life

*Parishioners called to  
form links in Life Chain*

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# In Brief

Current and upcoming topics from around the world to your own backyard

## WOMEN CALL ATTENTION TO EFFECTS OF ABORTION AT U.S. SUPREME COURT



CNS PHOTO BY PAUL HARING

Actress Jennifer O'Neill, spokeswoman for the "Silent No More" campaign, speaks out against abortion in front of the U.S. Supreme Court in Washington Sept. 10. She and other women who have had abortions gathered at the court building as part of an ongoing project to raise the awareness of the harmful effects of abortion on women and families. The campaign is a joint effort by the National Organization of Episcopalians for Life and Priests for Life.

## Catholic-Episcopal campaign asks women to reconsider having abortions

BY MARK PATTISON  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Ten women, including actresses Jennifer O'Neill and Melba Moore, stood in front of the U.S. Supreme Court Sept. 10 to urge women who are thinking about having an abortion to reconsider.

All 10 women had undergone an abortion — some of them multiple abortions — and testified to their post-abortion regrets.

The women's appearance was part of a new campaign, Silent No More Awareness, to help women with post-abortion healing. The campaign also asks pastors to conduct services in their churches to promote healing for women who have had abortions.

The campaign is jointly sponsored by the Catholic organization Priests for Life and the National Organization of Episcopalians for Life, known as NOEL.

Priests for Life associate director Janet Morana and NOEL national director Georgette Forney, co-founders of the campaign, called for the development of a wide-ranging study to measure the aftereffects of abortion on women.

Moore told Catholic News Service she joined the Catholic Church last year, and is a member of Holy Cross Parish in New York City. She was introduced during the program as having had "several" abortions. "I've been healed," she told CNS.

Moore added, "African-Americans used to know it was a terrible thing to kill your children. But nobody talks about it" now.

O'Neill, the 2003 recipient of the Proudly Pro-Life Award from the National Right to Life Committee, said acting roles for her have been more sparse "since I fell in love with Jesus Christ."

During the program, O'Neill said she had her abortion in her early 20s. She had one child at the time, but said she suffered nine miscarriages after the abortion. "With every miscarriage I had, I felt I was being punished," she added.

"If you're considering an abortion," O'Neill said, "talk to someone who's had one."

Missy Smith of Washington, who said she had two abortions and six children, said she "just crumbled" when she learned in the late 1990s of what she called "trafficking in baby parts" — abortionists selling organs and other parts of aborted fetuses to hospitals and research facilities. Smith founded WAKEUP — Women Against the Killing and Exploitation of Unwanted Persons — to combat this.

"All of us (who have had abortions) know the sex of our child. Many of us have even named them," Smith said. Until mothers who have undergone abortions meet their unborn children in heaven, she added, "we shall always feel unrequited."

## Cardinal urges Senate to move partial-birth abortion ban to president

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Six months after the Senate approved the Partial-Birth Abortion Ban Act by a 64-33 vote, the U.S. bishops' Committee on Pro-Life Activities chairman urged senators to move the legislation on to President Bush by eliminating what he called an "extraneous" provision in support of *Roe vs. Wade*.

Cardinal Anthony J. Bevilacqua said the "sense of the Senate" provision added as an amendment to the bill was "the one remaining obstacle to enactment of this much-needed legislation."

Proposed by Sen. Tom Harkin, D-Iowa, the amendment states the Supreme Court's 1973 *Roe vs. Wade* decision "was appropriate and secures an important constitutional right" and "should not be overturned."

"The fact that this provision is opposed by many members of Congress and the president, and has already delayed final passage of this widely supported legislation, is reason enough to remove it," Cardinal Bevilacqua wrote in a Sept. 12 letter to the senators.

The Harkin amendment is the only difference between the Senate version of the legislation and the version passed by the House June 4 by a 282-139 margin.

Usually differences are resolved in conference committee, but some senators have demanded further debate and a separate vote on sending the bill to conference committee.

Cardinal Bevilacqua said most Americans and 30 state legislatures support ending the partial-birth abortion procedure, but they have been thwarted by court decisions permitting such abortions.

As defined in the legislation, a partial-birth abortion is any abortion in which the baby is delivered "past the navel ... outside the body of the mother" before being killed. The bill allows partial-birth abortions when necessary to save the mother's life.

## Diocesan planner

### ASHEVILLE VICARIATE

HENDERSONVILLE — A confidential, Bible-based *Women's Recovery Group* meets Tuesdays 10 a.m.-noon at Immaculate Conception Church, 208 7th Ave. West. For more information, call Debra at (828) 891-3774.

ASHEVILLE — St. Eugene Church, 72 Culvern St., will host a workshop on *Creative Aging* on Sept. 25 at 10 a.m. Presenter Richard von Stamwitz is a national certified gerontological counselor and offers programs on aging well. For registration and information, call Sandra Breakfield at (704) 370-3220 or Gerry Carter at (828) 254-5193.

ASHEVILLE — Catholic Social Services will host a *BBQ Dinner and Raffle* at St. Eugene Church Sept. 28 12:30-3:30 p.m.

### CHARLOTTE VICARIATE

CHARLOTTE — Do you lead your life conscious that you were made by God and placed on this planet for an eternal purpose? A discussion group meets Mondays 10 a.m.-noon through Oct. 27 at St. John Neumann Church, 8451 Idlewild Rd. to discuss "*The Purpose-Driven Life*" by Rick Warren. Call Sandra at (704) 841-7562 or e-mail sstclair@carolina.rr.com for details.

CHARLOTTE — *Pathfinders*, an interfaith peer support group for separated or divorced people, meets Tuesday evenings 7:30-9 p.m. at St. Gabriel Church, 3016 Providence Rd. The first session runs through Dec. 6. For more information, please call Wayne at (704) 896-0900.

CHARLOTTE — *Our Babies Remembered* ... a memorial prayer service for babies lost through miscarriage, stillbirth or newborn death will be held on the Feast of the Guardian Angels, Oct. 2, at 7:30 p.m. at St. Matthew Church, 8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy. Families who have experienced such a loss are invited to attend as we remember the brief though precious lives of their children. For information, please call Tracy Webb at (704) 543-4780. Sponsored by the Elizabeth Ministry and the Bereavement Ministry of Compassion.

CHARLOTTE — The inaugural *Red Mass* for the Diocese of Charlotte will be celebrated Oct. 5 at 3 p.m. at St. Patrick Cathedral, 1621 Dilworth Rd., followed by a potluck dinner in the cafeteria of St. Patrick School. The Red Mass is an annual event celebrated to coincide with the opening of the Supreme Court's judicial calendar. The Mass is designed to provide all members of the legal community the opportunity to reflect on the God-given power and responsibility that are a part of their offices.

CHARLOTTE — The *Theology on Tap* fall series will take place on Monday evenings in October at Fuel Pizza on the Green 6:30-8:30 p.m. Fuel Pizza is located in the building behind St. Peter Church, 507 S. Tryon St. Free parking is available in The Green, the underground lot next to the church. The theme for the fall series is "Healing the Culture in the Third Millennium." For more information, please e-mail aschmidt@charlottediocese.org.

### GASTONIA VICARIATE

GASTONIA — An *Interfaith Prayer Vigil for Peace* will take place 7-8 p.m. Sept. 29 at Taber-

## THE CATHOLIC NEWS & HERALD

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## FROM THE VATICAN

# Vatican newspaper pays tribute to victims of Sept. 11 attacks

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The Vatican's newspaper paid tribute to American suffering in the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks but said the U.S. military campaign against international terrorism would not succeed in the face of continuing global economic injustice.

In a commentary on the second anniversary of the tragedy, *L'Osservatore Romano* said the "crime of horrible gravity" had changed the history of the world, and left people everywhere with an enduring sense of anxiety.

The terrorist attacks struck not only at U.S. symbols of economic and military might but also represented "an aggression against the value of peace founded on justice and forgiveness," said the commentary, signed by the paper's chief foreign editor, Giuseppe M. Petrone.

It noted there was immediate wide-

spread international support for the United States in the battle declared on global terrorism. But it said military campaigns in Afghanistan and in Iraq "have not subdued international terrorism, which continues to strike and to hold millions of people in the world in anxiety."

"After Sept. 11, there has been the realization that it is necessary to react to the barbarous logic of destruction by intensifying commitment in the fight against injustice and oppression, the fertile ground in which the evil plant of hate takes root and thrives," it said.

The paper said it was imperative not only to keep the memory of the attacks alive but also to overcome the fear they caused.

"It is necessary not to lose hope. Evil and death don't have the last word," it said.

naele Baptist Church, 519 19th St. Come pray with people of all faiths as they gather together to ask the Lord for peace in our time. For more information, please contact Tabernacle Baptist Church, (704) 864-4051, or Dennis Teall-Fleming at (704) 825-9600, ext. 26, or teallfleming@yahoo.com

## GREENSBORO VICARIATE

HIGH POINT — Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, Johnston St. and Skeet Club Rd., will offer *Basic Spanish Classes* for six weeks beginning Oct. 2. Classes will meet in Room 3 at IHM church Thursdays 7-8:30 p.m. Classes are open to all ages and all faiths. To register, call Larry Kwan at (336) 882-7204 or Nancy Skee at (336) 884-0522.

GREENSBORO — *The Greensboro Council of Catholic Women* will have its annual fall luncheon on Sept. 24. For more information call (336) 288-6022.

HIGH POINT — Michael Murray, OSFS, Executive Director of DeSales Spirituality, will facilitate a two-in-one program seminar Oct. 3-4 at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church. The seminar will familiarize participants with two programs: "Supreme Blessedness," which focuses on the beatitudes; and "Gifts That Matter," which focuses on the gifts of the Holy Spirit. The presentation begins with 6 p.m. Mass Friday. Saturday's seminar takes place 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Contact Brenda Agnew at BbrendaMae@aol.com or call (336) 869-8075 for reservations and more information.

GREENSBORO — Our Lady of Grace Church invites all pets and their owners for a *Pet Blessing* Oct. 4 in honor of the Feast of St. Francis. The blessing will take place at 8:45 a.m. at the church, 2205 West Market St.

GREENSBORO — Our Lady of Grace Church invites all former parishioners and students to the celebration of its 50th anniversary. The reunion weekend will be Oct. 10-12. For information, please send names (including maiden names) addresses, phone numbers and e-mail addresses to 201 S. Chapman St., Greensboro, N.C. 27406 or e-mail olgchurch@olgchurch.org.

## HICKORY VICARIATE

HICKORY — St. Aloysius Church will present *Catholic Scripture Study* (CSS), a series of 28 in-depth, yet easy to understand, Bible studies of the Gospel of John. Weekly meetings are 1-1/2

hours, consisting of small group discussion and lecture. Starting on September 24th, meetings will be on Wednesday evenings or Thursday mornings. E-mail stalcs@charter.net, or call Ann Miller at (828) 441-2205 for more information.

## SALISBURY VICARIATE

SALISBURY — *School of Leaders* will meet at Sacred Heart Church, Sept. 27 9-11:30 a.m. There will be a secretariat meeting 1-2:30 p.m. For more information, call Dan Hines at (704) 544-6665 or visit [www.charlottecursillo.org](http://www.charlottecursillo.org). To receive Cursillo information via e-mail contact bmayer@alltel.net.

## SMOKY MOUNTAIN VICARIATE

FRANKLIN — Father Mathew Kauth teaches seminarian Justin Grosnick's class on *How to Better Understand the Bible* by reading it in a historical context. This method developed by Jeff Cavins places the books of the Bible in the greater perspective of salvation history. Classes are held Thursday evenings at St. Francis of Assisi Church, 299 Maple St., at 6:30 p.m. For details, please call (828) 524-2289.

SYLVA — *A Workers' Right Workshop* will be held Sept. 27 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m. at St. Mary Church, 22 Bartlett St. Register by Sept. 22 to Eduardo Bernal at (828) 497-0586 or Mary Herr at (828) 497-9498.

## WINSTON-SALEM VICARIATE

CLEMMONS — Holy Family Church, 4820 Kinnamon Rd., will present the "Household of Faith" video & discussion series as part of its adult education program. The group meets Tuesdays at 7 p.m. in Room 3 of the Family Center. Please call facilitators Jim and Monica Passero at (336) 998-7503 for details.

Please submit notices of parish events for the diocesan planner at least 15 days prior to the event date in writing to Karen A. Evans at [kaevans@charlottediocese.org](mailto:kaevans@charlottediocese.org) or fax to (704) 370-3382.

## Photo exhibit of pope to open yearlong series at cultural center

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The eyes of a mother meet those of Pope John Paul II as he baptizes her child. She will never, ever forget that moment.

The pontiff enters a stadium full of tens of thousands of cheering people; they will never forget his charisma as the white-clothed figure moves among them.

These are the kinds of experiences offered in the first of four shows of photographs taken from the archives of *L'Osservatore Romano*, the Vatican daily newspaper, and focusing on Pope John Paul II.

The exhibit, which opened Sept. 10 at the Pope John Paul II Cultural Center in Washington, offers an opportunity for many to see the work of the Vatican's talented photographers, who constantly photograph the pope and the people around him.

Father G. Michael Bugarin, executive director of the center, spent three weeks at the Vatican earlier this year looking through thousands of photos for this series of exhibitions. In all he said he chose about 1,600 of 3 million; about 450 will be shown at the center.

Many have never been seen before. "These were all printed in the Vatican and will become part of the Pope John

Paul II Cultural Center archive," said Father Bugarin.

The exhibitions celebrate the silver jubilee year of Pope John Paul II; the first show is scheduled to be up through Jan. 25, 2004, with the fourth exhibition running through Nov. 7, 2004.

The first exhibit, "At the Altar of the World: Faith's Great Mystery," looks at the recent encyclical, "Ecclesia de Eucharistia," and the church's teaching about the Eucharist. Each image in the exhibit relates to a particular section of the encyclical.

There are photos of the May 13, 1981, assassination attempt on the pope; a view of him mounting the steps to begin Mass at St. Peter's Basilica; with then-Archbishop Theodore E. McCarrick in Newark, N.J., in 1987; at the 1986 world prayer meeting with religious leaders in Assisi, Italy; and offering Mass in the Sistine Chapel under Michelangelo's painting of the Last Judgment.

The most traveled pontiff ever, Pope John Paul II is shown in various situations during his trips around the world. We see him in Africa, the Middle East, as well as in South America, Cuba, the South Pacific, the United States, England and Europe.

## Peacemaker at prayer



CNS PHOTO FROM REUTERS

Sgt. Jonathan Cintron, of the 401st Military Police Company of the U.S. Army, rests his head on a Bible during a Sunday service in Tikrit, Iraq, Sept. 7. Soldiers at the U.S. base in Tikrit, who have seen at least 67 of their number killed since President Bush declared major combat over May 1, hoped President Bush's new appeal for troops from other countries might be their ticket home.

## THIS MONTH IN — 2000

### New home for Asheville CSS

Bishop William G. Curlin dedicated the new offices of Catholic Social Services in Asheville Sept. 20, 2000. The Western Regional Office of CSS was a home once owned by Dr. Mary Frances Shuford, an early pioneer for human rights. Approximately 130 community supporters attended the dedication of the facility offering family counseling, pregnancy support, adoption and immigration services.

## CORRECTION

In our last issue, the location of the upcoming Red Mass was incorrectly listed as St. Gabriel Church in a story. The correct location is at St. Patrick Cathedral (at 3 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 5).



# Indiana bishop asks Catholics to eradicate sin of racism

*Letter draws from Scripture, pope's writings, Vatican II*

BY BRIAN T. OLSZEWSKI

CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

GARY, Ind. (CNS) — When Bishop Dale J. Melczek wrote his first pastoral letter, "The Many Faces of Our Church," in June 2002, he assured Catholics in the Diocese of Gary that reflecting upon cultural diversity was only the first step, and that he would be following it up with a pastoral letter on racism.

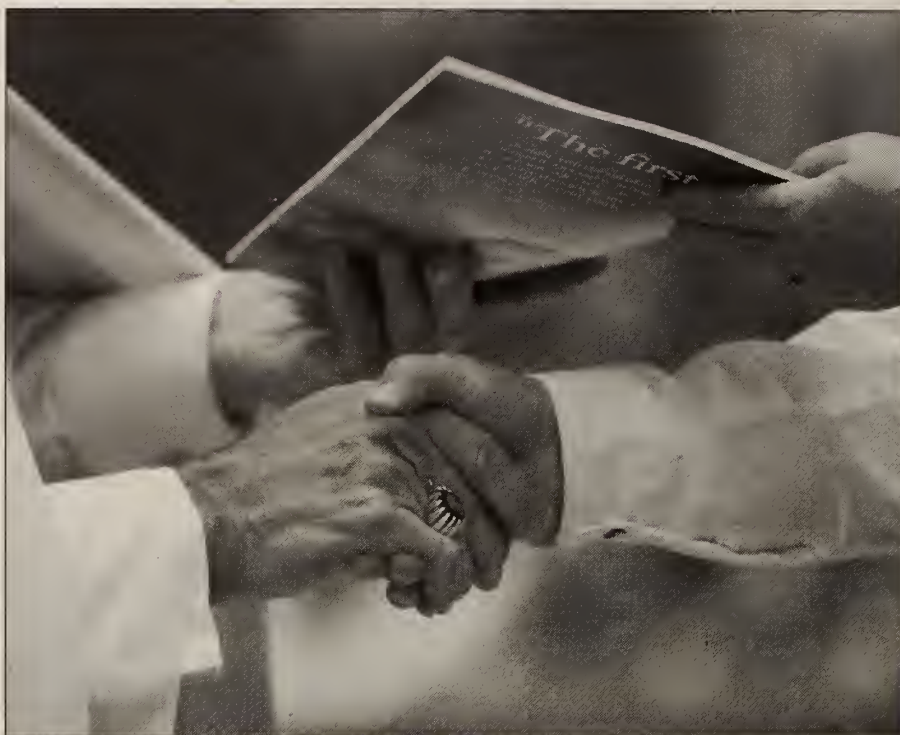
Bishop Melczek presented that pastoral letter, "Created in God's Image: A Pastoral Letter on the Sin of Racism and a Call to Conversion," at a prayer service in Gary's Holy Angels Cathedral Sept. 7 to more than 700 people, representing the 78 parishes of the diocese.

Saying he is "keenly aware of the deep-rooted sentiments that exist in the hearts of people in Northwest Indiana with regard to the issue of racism," Bishop Melczek wrote, "As one ordained to proclaim the good news of Jesus and to shepherd the Catholic faithful of the Diocese of Gary to live as witnesses of the Gospel, I feel compelled to address this situation."

"Although I am aware of the great pain and hopelessness of some, as well as the daunting challenges that come with addressing the sin and sickness of racism, I am by no means pessimistic regarding the inroads we can make in this area," he said.

The first two of five parts of the 9,800-word letter examine racism as a sin by drawing upon Scripture, the writings of Pope John Paul II, the documents of the Second Vatican Council and the U.S. bishops' 1979 letter, "Brothers and Sisters to Us."

"Racism expresses itself in three primary ways: through American culture, in the personal decisions of each individual, and through the institutions in our society. ... I would like to explore how this happens and to consider a possible means of liberation from our cultural, personal and institutional bondage to the sin of racism,"



CNS PHOTO BY KAREN CALLAWAY, NORTHWEST INDIANA CATHOLIC

Bishop Dale J. Melczek of Gary, Ind., presents a copy of his pastoral on the "sin of racism" to a lay person during a prayer service introducing the letter at Holy Angels Cathedral in Gary Sept. 7.

he wrote.

The bishop illustrated the cultural aspect of racism with the U.S. observance of Columbus Day, noting that "ascribing the discovery (of America) to Europeans made it possible for them to justify the confiscation of land belonging to Native Americans."

He continued, "The fact that we commemorate Columbus Day without question is an example of how our American culture has influenced the way we think and how we often can play a part in perpetuating racist thinking without knowing it."

The bishop cited cultural influences on individual decisions, such as the telling of demeaning jokes.

"Sometimes our blind adherence to cultural assumptions causes us to make decisions that actually perpetu-

ate racism without our knowing it. At other times, our willingness to abandon reason and submit to ignorance, insecurity or fear causes us to freely choose to act in a racist manner," Bishop Melczek wrote.

The bishop devotes the third part of the letter, which is being distributed via the parishes to every Catholic household in Northwest Indiana, to "white privilege," admonishing the white community "to appreciate the importance that each immigrant ethnic group attaches to its own culture, as well as the richness which that culture brings to our experience of American culture as a whole."

"Whites should be sympathetic toward new immigrants and understanding of their desire to continue to be nourished by their culture, as they gradually become incorporated into the society and the larger culture. Whites should not allow their ignorance of other cultures and the languages that are spoken by other ethnic groups in the U.S. to awaken the ever-present fear and insecurity within us that would lead to rejecting these groups," Bishop Melczek wrote.

He devoted the final two parts of the letter to redemption, calling upon members of the Catholic community to share how racism has influenced their lives.

"I realize that it is impossible for people to forget the injustices they have suffered. Nor is it wise to try to do so, lest we forget what caused them and allow them to be repeated," he wrote. "But it is possible with God's grace, albeit with great difficulty, to move beyond that realm wherein pain, bitterness and resentment dwell, and to climb to a higher spiritual level."

Bishop Melczek asked members of each parish to become part of a small, faith-sharing group and to discuss the points he raised over a period of four sessions. He has developed a study guide that will assist participants in their discussion.

In his remarks at the prayer service, the bishop called upon the faithful "to transform our own hearts, as well as our culture and the institutions of Northwest Indiana."

"We do not have an easy task before us," he said. "Insecurity, fear or ignorance will cause many to deny that there is any racism within themselves, within our culture or within our institutions. ... We should have no fear of taking on this challenge. Jesus promised that he would remain with us through the power of his Spirit."

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## Immaculate Heart of Mary hosts spiritual enrichment seminar

HIGH POINT — Oblate Father Michael Murray, executive director of De Sales Spirituality Center, will facilitate a two-in-one program seminar, "Becoming Blessed Givers," on Friday, Oct. 3, and Saturday, Oct. 4 at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church.

The De Sales Spirituality Center, a ministry of the Wilmington-Philadelphia Province of the Oblates of St. Francis de Sales, draws upon the lives and legacies of St. Francis de Sales and St. Jane de Chantal to provide programs and publications that assist people who wish to pursue a practical path to holiness.

Father Murray, a graduate of Allen-



Oblate Father Michael Murray

town College of St. Francis de Sales, the De Sales School of Theology, and the George Washington University in Washington, D.C., will familiarize seminar participants with two programs they can take back to their parishes for catechetical and spiritual enrichment.

One program, "Supreme Blessedness," focuses on the Beatitudes and is recommended to share during Advent. The other program is "Gifts That Matter," which focuses on the gifts of the Holy Spirit, an excellent presentation for confirmation catechists and candidates as well as a topical presentation for Advent.

The Friday program with a 6 p.m. Mass in the new sanctuary at the corner of Johnson Street and Skeet Club Road, followed by light supper and the interactive presentation. The Saturday program runs 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

### WANT TO GO?

If you are interested in attending the seminar, contact Brenda Agnew at (336) 869-8075 for reservations and more information. A \$10 free will offering is suggested.

## Foundation grants help many in parishes, schools

*\$60,000 issued to diocesan entities this year*

BY KAREN A. EVANS  
STAFF WRITER

GASTONIA — The Foundation of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte has issued 29 grants totaling \$60,000 to diocesan entities this year.

Jim Kelley, director of development and of the Foundation, presented two checks at St. Michael Church Sept. 7.

The first check of \$4,500 was presented to Joe Puceta, St. Michael School's principal. The money will go toward school tuition assistance for minority students.

"We appreciate the diocese's generosity in helping us to begin integrating more of a minority population — particularly Hispanics — into our school," said Puceta. "We hope to bring in 2-3 more students with the grant."

The second check of \$2,000 was presented to Carolyn Bergman, outreach director for St. Michael Church, for community outreach through a thrift shop servicing 1,500 people monthly. The funds will help hire a bilingual employee.

"We try to provide funds so that churches can carry on ministries that would not happen otherwise," said Kelley.

The Foundation, founded in 1994, is a non-profit organization established to provide endowments for the Diocese of Charlotte and its parishes, schools and agencies. By end of the 2002 fiscal year, the Foundation had over 100 endowments, 20 of which were added during

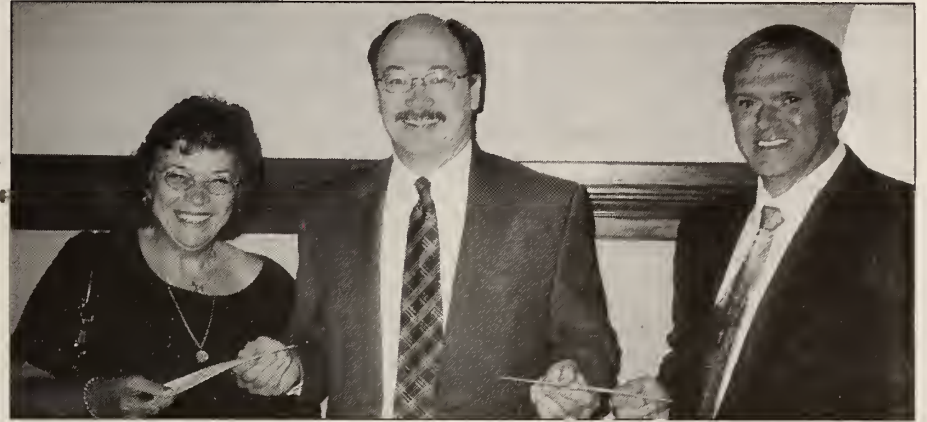


PHOTO BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

the past fiscal year. Approximately \$1 million has been distributed in nine years.

"The Foundation's goal is that over time, every parish, school and agency will have an individual endowment set up," said Kelley.

Two years ago, the Foundation started a grant-making process open to all diocesan entities. Last year, 18 parishes, schools and agencies were awarded grants up to \$5,000 each. The Foundation will continue to focus on programs that effectively support those who are poor; multicultural ministries; and evangelize individuals, with a particular emphasis on those whose efforts

are collaborative.

In addition to the parish, school and agency endowments, endowments have been established for Catholic schools, missions and African American and Native American ministries.

For more information about the Foundation of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte, please contact Jim Kelley, director of development, at (704) 370-3301 or e-mail [jkkelley@charlottediocese.org](mailto:jkkelley@charlottediocese.org).

Contact Staff Writer Karen A. Evans by calling (704) 370-3354 or e-mail [karevans@charlottediocese.org](mailto:karevans@charlottediocese.org).

### FOUNDATION GRANTS 2003

Sacred Heart Church, Salisbury	Acute-care medicines for the uninsured	\$2,000
Our Lady of Consolation Church, Charlotte	Hispanic Ministries	\$2,000
La Casa Latinoamericana de las Carolinas, Inc., Belmont	Hispanic Ministries	\$2,500
St. Michael Church, Gastonia	Establishing Hispanic Ministry programs	\$2,000
Rockingham Pregnancy Care Center, Eden	Client Service Director position	\$1,000
Catholic Campus Ministry	Catholic Leadership Development Programs	\$2,000
Holy Cross Church, Kernersville	Hispanic Ministries	\$2,000
St. Andrew the Apostle Church, Mars Hill	Part-time Hispanic Ministry position	\$2,000
Belmont Parish Nurse Ministry, Belmont	African-American/Hispanic Ministry	\$2,000
Our Lady of Mercy Church, Winston-Salem	Hispanic Radio Ministry	\$2,000
Volunteers for Wilkes Literacy, N. Wilkesboro	Hispanic Ministry	\$1,000
Winston-Salem Vicariate, Our Lady of Mercy Church and St. Benedict the Moor Church	Hispanic resources materials	\$1,500
Diocesan Offices of Youth, Campus, Young Adult and Hispanic Ministry	Hispanic Ministry training	\$2,000
Smoky Mountain Vicariate	Hispanic Ministry	\$3,500
St. Joseph Vietnamese Church, Charlotte	Vietnamese Ministry	\$2,000
St. Leo Catholic School, Winston-Salem	Special-Needs Student Training	\$2,500
Boone Vicariate Hispanic Ministry	Hispanic Ministry	\$3,500
St. Francis Church, Jefferson and St. Frances Church, Sparta	Bible Camp for Hispanic Youth	\$1,500
Salisbury/Albemarle Vicariates Hispanic Ministry	Hispanic Ministry	\$1,500
Sacred Heart Church, Salisbury	Hispanic Ministry	\$3,500
St. Francis of Assisi Church, Mocksville	Hispanic Ministry	\$500
St. Michael Catholic School, Gastonia	Hispanic Tuition Assistance	\$4,500
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## AROUND THE DIOCESE

# Immigrants bring new cultures

IMMIGRATION, from page 1

presented the church with opportunities and challenges. It's filling pews in churches with slipping membership, but it means providing spiritual and social services in Spanish for new arrivals unable to handle English.

The U.S. Census Bureau estimates that 52 percent of the nation's 32.5 million foreign-born population in 2002 came from Latin America.

The rise in the number of Latin Americans has been dramatic. The Census Bureau reports that in 1960 only 9 percent of the foreign-born population was from Latin America. This jumped to 44 percent in 1990 and to 50 percent in 2000.

In 2000, Mexicans accounted for 25 percent of all foreign-born and 50 percent of those from Latin America.

While the entire foreign-born population comprises only 11.5 percent of the U.S. total, the massive flow from Latin America is radically changing the demographics of the U.S. church. Latin Americans plus U.S.-born Latinos make Hispanics the fastest growing ethnic group in the U.S. church. Hispanics are estimated to constitute about 40 percent of the current U.S. Catholic population and their number is projected to continue growing.

Western North Carolina has a fast-growing foreign-born population, with more than 10,000 new immigrants each year, according to Raleigh Bailey, director of the UNC-Greensboro Center for New North Carolinians.

"Immigrants are a resource that make us a stronger community," said Bailey. "We are a better, more enriched society because of the constant flow of new cultures."

"The immigrants who are arriving in North Carolina are bearers of gifts," said Franciscan Sister Andrea Inkrott, director of diocesan Hispanic ministry. "If I look at persons who are different from me as objects of fear or suspicion, I will miss seeing the gifts that they offer and I will be the poorer for it."

However, the infusion of so many Latinos, especially clandestine flows across the U.S.-Mexican border, has raised concerns among some groups — accelerated since the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11 — for tighter border controls.

The Center for Immigration, an independent think tank, also raises the issue that so many Spanish-speaking

immigrants may form a closed community hindering "assimilation and integration of immigrants by creating a critical mass necessary to foster linguistic and spatial isolation."

Cruz discounts such concerns.

Immigrants are highly motivated, coming to better their lives and know that they have to learn English to succeed, he said.

"They will become English-speaking. If the first generation doesn't, the next generation will speak English," he said.

The same is true of adapting to U.S. ways of doing things and to incorporating U.S. values, said Cruz.

"People are born in different countries, but their kids are as American as can be," he said.

A major concern for the church is that while adapting immigrants and their children don't lose their cultural roots, which for Latinos are heavily tied to their language and religion.

"The Latino presence has revitalized many parishes that were losing members. It's been a needed shot in the arm," said Cruz.

It also challenges the church to develop ministries that can respond to the needs of Latinos coming from different countries and having different traditions within their common heritage.

"A mariachi Mass is not for Salvadorans or Argentines or Chileans," said Cruz, referring to a popular Mexican music style.

The acceleration of immigrants from south of the U.S. border also has spurred greater cooperation between the U.S. bishops and their Latin American counterparts.

In January, the U.S. and Mexican bishops issued their first joint pastoral letter pledging cooperation on pastoral care of migrants. It also asked their respective governments to change border policies making it easier to legally immigrate to the United States and improving protection of civil rights of migrants in both countries.

"Catholic social teaching calls us in a special way to remember those who are poor and marginalized," said Joe Purello, director of the diocesan Office of Justice and Peace. "Certainly refugees and immigrants, often lacking adequate civil protection, and often struggling to make ends meet in a strange land, are in need of our attention and support."

Staff Writer Karen A. Evans contributed to this story.

## MARCHING FOR FAITH



PHOTO BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

Bishop Misael Vacca Ramirez, bishop of Yopal in Colombia, and Father Jose Juya, Hispanic apostolate at St. Michael Church in Gastonia, led a procession honoring the Lady of the Rosary of Chiquinquirá outside the church Sept. 13.

## Colombian bishop celebrates Latin American culture in Gastonia

BY KEVIN E. MURRAY  
EDITOR

GASTONIA — Bishop Misael Vacca Ramirez, bishop of Yopal in Colombia, visited St. Michael Church in Gastonia last week. He came to help promote unity among Colombian and other Hispanic parishioners and to encourage prayers for Colombia.

Bishop Ramirez and Father Jose Juya, Hispanic apostolate at St. Michael Church, led a procession to the church honoring the Lady of the Rosary of Chiquinquirá Sept. 13. Chiquinquirá is 60 miles north of the Colombian capital of Bogotá.

"Every Latin American country has a version of Mary," said Juan Garcia, a St. Michael parishioner. He likened the Lady of Chiquinquirá, whose feast day is July 9, to the Lady of Guadalupe, who helped convert millions of Mexicans to Catholicism.

"There are a lot of Colombians in the Gastonia community," said Garcia. "We need to reinforce our customs here in this different culture and society."

"The largest number of Colombians are in this area, but there is a large

number of Hispanics from other countries," said Franciscan Sister Andrea Inkrott, director of diocesan Hispanic ministry. "Father Jose organized this to gather the Colombians and bring them into community. It's a chance to draw strength from each other in their faith."

"This celebration is ... for all people to meet and get to know each other," said Garcia.

During the Mass, Bishop Ramirez asked the different people of different Latin American countries to stand and be recognized. He remarked that he truly attended an international event.



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# Silver anniversary

ANNIVERSARY, from page 1

McSweeney, former pastor; and Rev. Msrs. Carl Macero and Mark Nash, permanent deacons.

The standing-room-only Mass also filled the cry room and overflowed into the outer entry space. Parishioners cheered when Jim Little and Ron Goetle, parish council president, burned the parish debt note at the podium.

Little, the first parish council president in 1978, read from a plaque from Pope John Paul II officially proclaiming Sunday as St. Thomas Aquinas Silver Jubilee Day.

"We're very proud of the people who worked so hard to start this parish, to get our first building under construction," said Little.

"We started out originally with 15 families at Green Acres Nursing Home, where Carolinas Medical Center-University is now. The way things have been going, it's obvious it is still a very young parish. So I'd see it doing nothing but growing over the next 10 years. We'll probably double our size," said Little.

Located a block from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, the thriving parish had outgrown its second building, now a social center called Aquinas Hall, by the time Father Zampino arrived in 1995.

"The roots of the parish are in the campus ministry," said Father Zampino. "Campus ministry was the essence and the real foundation. Bishop

(Michael J.) Begley applied a donation given to the parish to build the first building. But the university area blossomed so quickly."

Today, St. Thomas Aquinas Church has more than 2,500 registered families.

"It's been interesting to watch the numbers that have come into the church, and with that I think of the enthusiasm and growth that makes it vibrant. And that's God's way of continuing to bless the church," said Father Schratz, who coordinates the parish RCIA program.

The parish youth program is also flourishing under Father Kobel.

"You know kids — most of them, when they get out of high school, forget about the church," he said. "But, 90-something percent of the kids in our youth group have come back to Mass or as eucharistic ministers."

After the Mass, parishioners and clergy celebrated with a picnic lunch beneath a canopy between the church and Aquinas Hall. Music and activities were provided throughout the afternoon. Young people enjoyed a climbing wall and other games.

There were several posters with archive photos from the beginning years of the parish. One wall contained a detailed timeline chronicling events of the parish since 1978.

"This has really been home to us. Our family has been at St. Thomas for 22 years," said parishioner Michael Weiner. "We've had our six children baptized here. All six have had first Communion here. And we've had three so far confirmed and another one being confirmed this year. We started here



PHOTO BY STEPHEN UZZELL

Bishop William G. Curlin, Capuchin Father Ignatius Zampino and other priests and deacons of St. Thomas Aquinas Church in Charlotte celebrated a Mass with 1,500 people in honor of the church's 25th anniversary Sept. 14.

after our first month of marriage."

"Today I feel sort of like a parent. Like parents who watch the birth of their child, I have watched the birth of the parish," said Oblate Father Joseph Zuschnidt, pastor of Queen of the Apostles Church in Belmont. He was pastor of St. Thomas Aquinas from 1979 to 1988.

"And now it's 25 years later, and you've given the kids away in marriage. I just feel so very proud of what has happened here, and it's just exciting," he said.

"St. Thomas Aquinas is a caring community," said Dominican Sister Anastacia Pagulayan. "The people here are very faithful to their commitments with the church. That's the reason why the church is flourishing."

"It's a very young, vibrant community and also with tradition," said Rev. Mr. Nash, who has been with the parish

for more than two years. "In these two years, I've baptized over 100 children, and that's a testimony to the youthfulness of this parish."

In 25 years at St. Thomas Aquinas Church there have been: 2,100 baptisms; 2,020 first Communions; 1,640 confirmations; 332 weddings; and 107 funerals, according to the latest records.

"The people here have found a very strong sensitivity to the poor. And if we don't see that, then we're not doing our job," said Father Fortunato, from Union City, N.J. "But here at St. Thomas, they are really building their whole attentiveness to the poor. The people and the priests are united as one, as one community with a common vision together."

*Editor's Note: For more on the history of St. Thomas Aquinas Church, please see the Parish Profile on page 16.*

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## FIGHTING FOR LIFE

# Parishioners to form links of Life Chain on Respect Life Sunday

BY KEVIN E. MURRAY  
EDITOR

CHARLOTTE — On the 31st anniversary of Respect Life Sunday this year, Oct. 5, parishes throughout the Diocese of Charlotte are being called to stand as prayerful witnesses for life by forming links in the Life Chain.

"The Life Chain is an opportunity for people of all ages to peacefully express their beliefs in the sanctity of life," said Maggi Nadol, diocesan Respect Life Office coordinator.

"The Life Chain is a visual statement made by those who believe in saving the unborn," said Donna Dyer, Respect Life coordinator for Holy Family Church in Clemmons. "It unites people of different faiths and their pastors to inform the public of the present holocaust of abortion."

Founded in 1985 in Yuba City, Calif., the Life Chain crosses ecumenical lines to form one of the more visible stands against abortion in the United States and Canada each year. Churchgoers of various Christian faiths line city streets, praying for life issues and holding placards such as "Abortion kills children" and "Abortion hurts women."

"Signs such as 'Abortion kills children' speak for themselves," said Dyer. "The community is notified by the large gathering that abortion is wrong, that women are hurt, that adoption is an option and that Jesus loves them and forgives them."

"The Life Chain's purpose is so that people don't forget the tragedy of Roe v. Wade, and how abortion has permeated our society," said David Proffit, a St. Vincent de Paul parishioner and co-coordinator of the Charlotte-area Life Chain.

"Many feel that abortion does not impact them directly," said Nadol. "But we see the fallout in a society that disregards the value of the most vulnerable

among us: the unborn."

The U.S. Catholic Church observes October as Respect Life Month and the Life Chain is a notable kickoff event for many parishes.

"In most cities, this is accomplished by the 'single-grand chain method,' said Proffit. "The Charlotte Life Chain has distinguished itself over the last few years by developing into a 'multiple-church-location chain.' The Charlotte area is relatively spread out, so our 'chain' helps to geographically link Charlotte together."

This year, hundreds of Life Chains are expected to form cross the United States. In this diocese, parishes are participating along property lines of their respective churches, on city sidewalks and with other church groups in their towns.

"When people who believe in the sanctity of human life are unable to participate in any other way, the Life Chain gives them a chance to spend an hour in prayer along the sidewalks of busy thoroughfares and, hopefully, to save the life of an unborn child," said Dyer.

## WANT TO PARTICIPATE?

Here is a list of Catholic churches and locations to participate in the Life Chain on Sunday, Oct. 5.

### 1-2 p.m. in Charlotte

- Our Lady of the Assumption Church, at 4207 Shamrock Drive
- St. Thomas Aquinas Church, on Highway 49 across from UNC-C main entrance (St. Therese and St. Mark parishioners will participate)

### 1:30-2:30 p.m. in Charlotte

- St. John Neumann Church, at

## Tee time



COURTESY PHOTO

Parishioners from Holy Infant Church in Reidsville at the parish's 2nd annual golf tournament at the Monroeton Golf Course Aug. 22. After expenses, \$3,541 went toward the parish building fund.

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### 2-3 p.m. in Charlotte

- St. Ann Church, at 3635 Park Road
- St. Gabriel Church, at 3016 Providence Road
- St. Matthew Church, at 8015 Ballantyne Commons Parkway (St. Luke parishioners will participate)
- St. Peter Church, at 507 South Tryon Street (St. Patrick parishioners will participate)
- St. Vincent de Paul Church, at 6828 Old Reid Road

### 2:30-3:30 p.m. in Greensboro

- 2811 Battleground Avenue (in front of TJ Maxx)

### 2:30-3:30 p.m. in Winston-Salem

- Hanes Mall Boulevard (west end, a few blocks from the mall)



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# Dedicated to a growing community



PHOTO BY KEVIN E. MURRAY

The new Holy Cross Church in Kernersville is almost 14,000 square feet and can seat approximately 800 people. Bishop William G. Curlin celebrated the dedication Mass with Father Joseph Tustin and other priests Sept. 13.

## HOLY CROSS, from page 1

sign language for the hearing impaired.

"I thank Father Joseph for allowing me to come and celebrate this beautiful liturgy with you," said Bishop Curlin to the congregation. "Although I've been here to celebrate confirmation, this is the first time we come together to officially consecrate and dedicate this beautiful church."

"After all the effort and hard work, this (event) makes it all worth while," said Parrett, a local contractor who oversaw the 14-month construction process of the facility.

The new church is almost 14,000 square feet, and the diamond-shaped sanctuary seats approximately 800 people.

"It's the biggest church we could build on this property," said Father Tustin.

"We needed this church desperately. We were busting at the seams," said Les Buchan, parish finance council chairman.

Growth is an ongoing aspect of the Holy Cross parish, and this dedication was actually the third in the church's history that began in 1969.

Founded as a mission of St. Benedict the Moor Church in Winston-Salem, the original Holy Cross Church building was formerly an antique shop furnished with pews, and organ and other items collected from churches in the diocese.

Although elevated to parish status in 1973, groundbreaking for a new building did not take place until 1978. That multipurpose structure, with seats for 350 people, was dedicated in October of that year.

"The old church had cold, metal seats," said Bill Gerichten, longtime member and parish sacristan — the person in charge of the parish's sacramental objects, lectors and 120 ushers. "We later got pews, which added to the acoustics and religious aspect of the church."

By 1982, parish growth dictated more space was needed and then-Bishop Michael J. Begley blessed the

expanded church that seated 500 church goers.

More than 1,300 people joined the church over the next decade, and the parish is actively involved in a number of ministries and programs, including faith formation, day care, consolation ministry, parish care, Knights of Columbus, Columbiettes and Cub Scouts.

Hispanic ministry was established in the early 1980s and is presently staffed by one pastoral care assistant and 35 volunteers. Several hundred Hispanic families attend the weekly Mass in Spanish.

"We're definitely growing. This area is one of the fastest growing areas," said Buchan.

Situated between Winston-Salem and Greensboro, the Kernersville area is home to about 20,000 people, said Buchan, but that number is expected to "explode" in the next few years. With that growth, an influx of Catholics is anticipated.

"Bishop McGuinness High School is nearby (in Kernersville) and that's bringing parishioners who want their children to attend a Catholic high school," he said.

Multicultural music for the Mass was provided by the Holy Cross choir, the Hispanic choir, the youth choir and Agape, a folk-style group that utilizes modern music and instruments to enhance the liturgy at Holy Cross.

The new church is symbolic of the growing and diverse cultures of Holy Cross.

"It symbolizes their unity, faith, hope and love," said Father Tustin. "The aesthetics are a sign of the interior beauty that radiates from the grace of God and his people."

"This is a magnificent church, but you are the stones ... you are the building," said Bishop Curlin in his homily. "This church encloses Christ in you. We are like living altars, tabernacles. When we walk out of this church, God walks through us and into this world."

*Editor's Note: For more on the history of Holy Cross Church, please see the Parish Profile in our next issue.*

Contact Editor Kevin E. Murray by calling (704) 370-3334 or e-mail [kemurray@charlottediocese.org](mailto:kemurray@charlottediocese.org).

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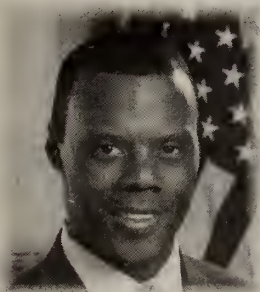
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# Culture Watch

A roundup of Scripture, readings, films and more

## A fresh look at Aquinas, and a celebration of the Jesuit way

REVIEWED BY MITCH FINLEY  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

St. Thomas Aquinas (1225-1274) and St. Augustine of Hippo (354-430) are the two most influential theologians in the history of Christianity. Many would give Thomas the edge, however, because his perspectives are so modern. "Discovering Aquinas: An Introduction to His Life, Work and Influence" is an outstanding introduction for anyone unfamiliar with him and an excellent discussion even for those already familiar with him.

British Dominican Father Aidan Nichols, prior of the Dominican community of Blackfriars in Cambridge, England, is a leading Catholic theolo-

to a much wider audience than Jesuits themselves. After all, through Jesuit high schools and colleges, Jesuit spirituality has been having a terrific impact on Catholic laity for many generations. Jesuit Fathers William A. Barry and Robert G. Doherty have written a book that will be a valuable update and inspiration to the countless Catholic laity who were formed by Jesuits in earlier years.

This book will be a powerful tool to nourish the Jesuit ethos and spirituality on Jesuit campuses as lay faculty and administrators take on more and more responsibility for maintaining the spirit of Jesuit education. Even beyond that, this is a book that anyone interested in cultivating a deeply Catholic spirituality in the world will want to read and reflect upon.

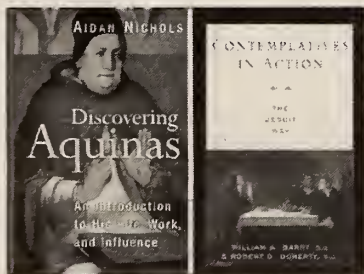
The book is not about Ignatian spirituality (the spirituality found in the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola); instead, it is about the spirituality of the religious order, as expressed in its constitution, the exercises, and other documents, traditions and practices that have developed in the course of the order's 450 years of history.

Jesuit spirituality is characterized by tension between forces: between trust in God and the use of one's talents; between prayer and action; between companionship and mission; between obedience and learning from experience; between the center and the periphery of the church; and the tensions of proper use of this world's goods, of chastity and of finding God in all things.

Fathers Barry and Doherty describe Jesuits as men who are "caught up" in these tensions. "They try to work as if everything depended on God, but they also use all their talent, as well as whatever means seem adapted to attain their aims. To some they look like dreamers who waste their talent and efforts on a losing cause. To others they look like the neopagans with whom they often live and work. To others they seem so threatening that they become the enemy to be attacked and even killed. When they live within the creative tensions of their spirituality, they are as problematic as Jesus, their Lord, who has called them to be his companions."

Sounds like a fine summary of what all Catholics should be up to in all kinds of ways, great and small. Read this book and get the details.

Finley is the author of more than 30 books for Catholic readers, including "For Men Only: Strategies for Living Catholic" (Liguori) and, most recently, "It's Not the Same Without You: Coming Home to the Catholic Church" (Doubleday).



"Discovering Aquinas: An Introduction to His Life, Work and Influence," by Dominican Father Aidan Nichols. Eerdmans (Grand Rapids, Mich., 2003). 214 pp., \$28.00.

"Contemplatives in Action: The Jesuit Way," by Jesuit Father William A. Barry and Jesuit Father Robert G. Doherty. Paulist Press (Mahwah, N.J., 2003). 80 pp., \$11.95.

gian and writer, and his ability to explain Aquinas and his thought to the average reader is exceptional. In remarkably clear and captivating language, he gives the reader a short biography of Thomas and follows this up with an overview of the main themes in his theology (revelation, God and creation, the Trinity, the Trinity in man, angelology, grace and the virtues, and Christ, church, and sacraments).

In 20 pages Father Nichols covers Thomas' impact on theology since his time, then in two short chapters he introduces the reader to the role of Thomistic thought in both philosophy and theology.

You'll find no more interesting, exciting and informative book than this one to spark new life in your own understanding of what Christian faith is all about today.

"Contemplatives in Action: The Jesuit Way," a brief introduction to Jesuit spirituality, should be of interest

## WORD TO LIFE

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS: SEPT. 21, 2003

Sept. 21, Twenty-fifth  
Sunday in Ordinary Time

Cycle B Readings:

1) Wisdom 2:12, 17-20

Psalm 54:3-8

2) James 3:16-4:3

3) Gospel: Mark 9:30-37

BY DAN LUBY

CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

The young man had made a name for himself as a writer, and his notoriety had opened doors, allowed him to meet some famous people he admired.

There was no one he admired more than Dorothy Day, co-founder of the Catholic Worker movement, author of an inspiring autobiography, a larger-than-life figure of immense spiritual depth and courage and humility. And now he was to begin a long interview with this spiritual hero.

He waited nervously in the dining room of the Catholic Worker House while Day finished talking to one of the homeless people who'd come for a free meal. The woman was clearly drunk, rambling on and on while Day listened patiently.

The man's nervousness slowly changed to irritation. It was obvious that he was waiting to talk to Day. Why didn't the drunk let her go and let him get on with this meeting he'd been so

looking forward to? He tried to make himself more obvious, hoping the woman would get the hint and leave. He willed her to notice him and stop, but she kept talking, endlessly. Finally, Day asked her companion if she'd mind an interruption, then walked over to the man and asked, "Are you waiting to talk to one of us?"

It cut him, he said, to the bone, this quiet question which revealed to him his own sense of self-importance and showed him what it looks like to be a follower of Jesus, to welcome and respect those the world would call nobodies. Dorothy Day was simply following the teaching of Jesus in Sunday's Gospel: "Whoever receives one of these little children in my name receives me." May we be mindful of the "nobodies" in our world who deserve our attention, the "unimportant" ones who need our respect.

### Questions:

Who helps me in my life to notice and attend to people I might otherwise ignore? What fear about following Jesus might I especially need to pay about?

### Scripture to Illustrate:

"If anyone wishes to rank first, he must remain the last of all and the servant of all" (Mark 9:35b).

## WEEKLY SCRIPTURE

### SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 21 - SEPTEMBER 27

Sunday (Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time), Wisdom 2:12, 17-20, James 3:16-4:3, Mark 9:30-37; Monday, Ezra 1:1-6, Luke 8:16-18; Tuesday, Ezra 6:7-8, 12, 14-20, Luke 8:19-21; Wednesday, Ezra 9:5-9, Luke 9:1-6; Thursday, Haggai 1:1-8, Luke 9:7-9; Friday (Sts. Cosmas & Damian), Haggai 1:15-2:9, Luke 9:18-22; Saturday (St. Vincent de Paul), Zechariah 2:5-9, 14-15, Luke 9:43-45

### SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 28 - OCTOBER 4

Sunday (Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time), Numbers 11:25-29, James 5:1-6, Mark 9:38-43, 45, 47-48; Monday (Sts. Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael), Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14, James 1:47-51; Tuesday (St. Jerome), Zechariah 8:20-23, Luke 9:51-56; Wednesday (St. Therese of the Child Jesus), Nehemiah 2:1-8, Luke 9:57-62; Thursday (Guardian Angels), Nehemiah 8:1-4, 5-6, 7-12, Matthew 18:1-5, 10; Friday, Baruch 1:15-22, Luke 10:13-16; Saturday (St. Francis of Assisi), Baruch 4:5-12, 27-29, Luke 10:17-24

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# HE'S GOT SOUL



CNS PHOTO FROM PARAMOUNT PICTURES

Cuba Gooding Jr. stars in the movie "The Fighting Temptations" as an unemployed ad executive who receives an unexpected inheritance, but can only collect it by organizing a gospel choir in his hometown where the lone talent is a sultry jazz singer (Beyonce Knowles).

## No use fighting these 'Temptations'

NEW YORK (CNS) — An unemployed ad executive (Cuba Gooding Jr.) receives an unexpected inheritance, but can only collect it by organizing a gospel choir in his hometown where the lone talent is a sultry jazz singer (Beyonce Knowles).

Director Rick Famuyiwa's film has definite shortcomings, such as a predictable story line, some canned humor and a few needless sexual references. However, the film also has an endearing charm that is peppered with lessons of redemption, forgiveness and looking beyond outward appearances to see the goodness in people.

Gooding and Knowles both shine, but the real reason to watch this film is the great toe-tapping, finger-snapping

gospel music. It leaves the audience humming as they walk out the theater door. And that's no wonder, since the film features some of gospel and R&B's most well-known artists, such as Faith Evans, the O'Jays and Melba Moore. This is real down-home Gospel-music inspiration. The rousing last number is particularly stirring as it imparts

A few sexual references with sporadic crass language. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-II — adults and adolescents. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13 — parents are strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.



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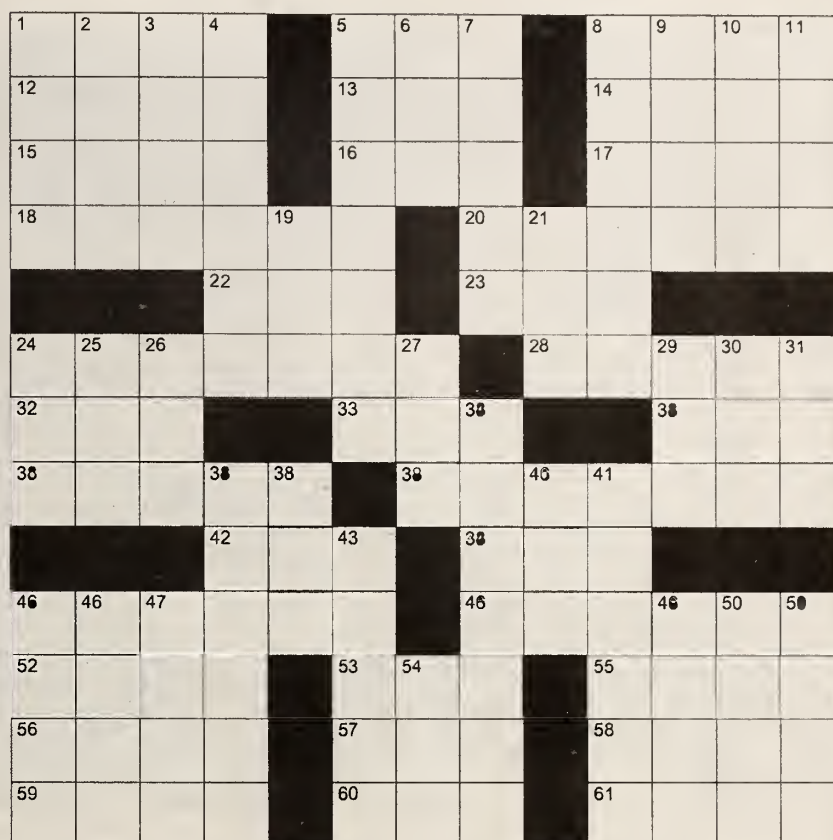
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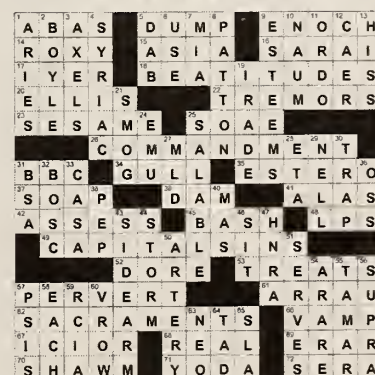
- 1 Mecca Pilgrimage
- 5 Form of Buddhism
- 8 Type of wrestling
- 12 Currency premium
- 13 Time period
- 14 Better strike while it's hot
- 15 Not any (fr.)
- 16 Cot
- 17 "Out of \_\_\_\_, one."
- 18 French dessert
- 20 Refrigerator
- 22 Catechetical leader (abbr.)
- 23 Army postal abbreviation
- 24 Enjoy a smoke
- 28 Finished
- 32 Snake
- 33 Born
- 35 Motorists org.
- 36 Southern Jewish Kingdom
- 39 Galore
- 42 Spanish day
- 44 Enchantment
- 45 Renowned
- 48 Jacob's deli order?
- 52 Prayer ending
- 53 Condo org.
- 55 Folk tale
- 56 Italian currency of old
- 57 Biblical priest
- 58 Kid's cereal
- 59 Jacob's blue jean?
- 60 Music group from Athens, GA
- 61 Religious faction

### DOWN

- 1 \_\_ ten
- 2 Spanish water
- 3 Abandon
- 4 Owner of Technicolor Dreamcoat
- 5 "Land of \_\_\_\_, Land of Naphtali"
- 6 Before to the bard
- 7 First name in gymnastics
- 8 Leah's son

- 9 Jukut \_\_\_\_ (dish from Bali)
- 10 Single prefix
- 11 Gem
- 19 Play division
- 21 Chaplaincy training (abbr.)
- 24 JFK follower
- 25 Borrowers letters
- 26 Jacob's iron bar?
- 27 Split \_\_\_\_
- 29 Jacob's quarterback?
- 30 Munch
- 31 "\_\_\_\_ by Day"
- 34 Joseph's "Everwood" son?
- 37 Hebrew name for God
- 38 South Pacific Island
- 40 Confederate general
- 41 "My heart \_\_\_\_ in the Lord"
- 43 "My Name is \_\_\_\_ Lev" (Potok novel)
- 45 Colorful season
- 46 French friend
- 47 Game show producer Griffin
- 49 Dullard
- 50 Norwegian navigator
- 51 Following
- 54 Corrida cheer

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## TV WATCH

## 'Hope and Faith' holds promise



CNS PHOTO FROM ABC

Kelly Ripa and Nicole Paggi star in the new ABC sitcom "Hope and Faith." The series premieres this fall on Fridays in prime time and "holds promise" according to Catholic News Service.

## ABC adds more law enforcement shows

BY ANNE NAVARRO  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

*Editor's Note: Look for reviews of other networks' fall line-ups in following issues.*

NEW YORK (CNS) — ABC is adding three more law-enforcement related dramas to its prime-time lineup this fall, which, with the exception of "The Practice" and its news magazines, makes ABC's serious programs all about cops and robbers.

Although ABC has no outstanding new programming, its lineup is not bad, with the exception of one sitcom which, with its slightly divisive storyline about gay fathers, may stir up some debate, or simply fade away because of subpar writing.

### ABC'S NEW FALL SERIES AT A GLANCE:

— "10-8," Sundays, 8-9 p.m. EDT.  
Action drama about a Brooklyn-

born rookie cop in the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department.

Some Interest: A bit heavy-handed on the police fraternity side with all the teasing and harassing the established cops give the newbies, but if writers can even out the balance between comedy and drama, it may find an audience.

— "I'm With Her," Tuesdays, 8:30-9 p.m. EDT.

Sitcom about the kismet romance between a humble high school teacher and a curvy Hollywood movie star.

Holds Promise: Good writing and chemistry between the leads, but the writers have left no room for romantic tension by establishing the couple in the first episode, and fish-out-of-water scenarios may tire soon.

— "It's All Relative," Wednesdays, 8:30-9 p.m. EDT.

Sitcom in which opposites attract as an Irish-Catholic young man falls for an upper-crust Harvard gal who's been raised by two gay men.

Problematic: Teetering on the edge

of caricature for both sets of parental characters (one as bullying, headstrong Irish Catholics and the other as snippy gay men), the show condones the homosexual lifestyle while eliciting laughter from homophobic jokes and put-downs of blue-collar workers.

— "Karen Sisco," Wednesdays, 10-11 p.m. EDT.

Drama set in Miami about the personal and professional life of a U.S. marshal (whose wardrobe consists of short skirts, tight shirts, heels and a gun) chasing down dangerous fugitives.

Some Interest: Based on Jennifer Lopez's character in the movie "Out of Sight," the program is sleek and sexy, but unrealistic and formulaic. Robert Forster as the title character's dad is terrific.

— "Threat Matrix," Thursdays, 8-9 p.m. EDT.

Drama about a highly specialized, elite task force created by the Homeland Security Agency to combat terror threats and keep the nation safe.

Some Interest: Tapping into America's fear of imminent terrorist attacks, the program uses all the current lingo (al Qaeda, security level) and worst-case scenarios (suicide bombers) to thrill audiences until the happy ending. But it might be tough to come up

with fresh angles on the same concept week after week.

— "Married to the Kellys," Fridays, 8:30-9 p.m. EDT.

Sitcom about a true-blue, only-child New Yorker who uproots to Kansas City, where his wife's large, close-knit and sometimes stifling family lives.

Some Interest: Adjusting to the Midwestern lifestyle and large family dynamics provides some comical moments and snappy dialogue keeps things rolling. But lead Breckin Meyer seems to be carrying the whole show.

— "Hope & Faith," Fridays, 9-9:30 p.m. EDT.

Sitcom that has an out-of-work soap opera star fleeing Tinseltown to live with her older sister, a stay-at-home mom juggling three kids, a husband and plenty of laundry.

Holds Promise: The connection between Faith Ford ("Murphy Brown") and Kelly Ripa ("Live With Regis and Kelly") is believable and appealing, as are the clever writing and the slapstick comedy. But the show may suffer from what audiences may interpret as Ripa's overexposure.

Navarro is a part-time reviewer for the Office for Film & Broadcasting of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

## Classifieds

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—James A. Cox, Editor-in-Chief, The Midwest Book Review



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## Upcoming rally to 'FIRE' up faith

FORT MILL, S.C. — The Southeast FIRE Rally, a dynamic, one-day Catholic event for adults will be held at the Charlotte Bobcats Training Center in Fort Mill, S.C., on Saturday, March 13, 2004.

The event is geared to ignite participants' faith experiences through powerful, challenging talks on Faith, Intercession, Repentance and Evangelism by the nationally recognized FIRE team of Franciscan Father Michael Scanlan, a Third Order Regular Franciscan; Sister Ann Shields, superior of the Servants of God's Love in the Diocese of Lansing, Mich.; Ralph Martin; and Peter Herbeck.

Bishop Robert J. Baker of Charleston, S.C., is the principal celebrant and homilist of the closing liturgy. The rally will include dynamic, inspiring music by Hearts of Fire from Durham, a bookstore and a ministry fair.

The original Southeast FIRE Rally in 1999 sold out several weeks in advance. Register early for this event by calling Good News Ministries at (704) 521-9949 or visit [www.fireministry.org/charlotte](http://www.fireministry.org/charlotte).

## Adopted grandparent has giving heart

*Program works to unite parish and school*

CHARLOTTE — At St. Gabriel School, generations are growing closer together.

Through the school's Adopt-a-Grandparent Program, Richard Cox has become part of the St. Gabriel School family.

The program was created to enrich the relationship between the school and St. Gabriel Church. Students without grandparents or whose grandparents live out of town are given opportunities to gain wisdom from and affection for their elders, while older parishioners can become involved with the life of the school — they are able to attend events such as Grandparents' Day, talent shows and family bingo night.

Cox, a St. Gabriel parishioner and former U.S. fighter pilot during World War II, is already "Grandpa" to 37 grandchildren of his own, but his love for children prompted his involvement at the school. He has now become "Grandpa" to two more children — St. Gabriel School students whose grandparents live out of town.



COURTESY PHOTO

Richard Cox, already a grandfather to 37 grandchildren, sits with two "adopted" grandchildren — students at St. Gabriel School — on a bench in the school's Grandparents Garden. Cox, who became involved with the school through its Adopt-a-Grandparent Program, purchased two benches for the garden.

Through Cox's contribution, two benches were purchased and placed in the Grandparents' Garden on the church/school campus. The Grandpar-

ents' Garden is dedicated to all grandparents and the 13 adopted grandparents of the students. The benches are in honor of Cox and his wife.

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# Perspectives

A collection of columns, editorials and viewpoints

## A new decline in Mass attendance

Mass attendance is down in the Archdiocese of Washington.

For the first time in a decade, the number of people coming to Sunday Mass has declined. The decline over the previous year was 7.55 percent. It mirrors similar declines in many parts of the country.

Overall, less than one-third of Washington area Catholics are coming to Mass on Sundays. We had just over 150,000 people in the pews, out of more than 500,000. That ratio pretty much has been unchanged over the past decade.

The Washington data is based on a headcount taken each year by ushers at all Sunday Masses in October. The attendance then is averaged out.

### Parish Diary

FATHER  
PETER J. DALY  
CNS COLUMNIST



very proud of that increase. This year, with the decline, we are saying nothing. Perhaps that's because nobody is sure exactly why the decline took place or knows what to do.

There are several possible reasons for the decline. One of the most frequently mentioned reasons is the Washington-area sniper scare. Last year people were staying home out of fear of getting shot. That was especially true in Montgomery County, Md., the suburban area where the shootings started. It was also true in Prince Georges County, Md., where a boy was shot on his way to school. Mass attendance there was down 23 percent.

However, the sniper scare does not account for the whole decline. Attendance was down even in areas untouched by the sniper, such as southern Maryland. Most disturbingly, the biggest decline in Mass attendance was on college campuses. Our campus ministries reported a 42 percent decline in Mass attendance over the previous year.

I think a major reason for the 2002 decline in Mass attendance is the fallout from the child-abuse scandal. In October 2002, when our count took place, the scandal had just passed its crescendo.

During the height of the scandal, poll after poll showed 95 percent of the faithful saying that it would not affect their faith. But 5 percent said it would affect their faith. Five percent of U.S. Catholics is a lot of people, about 3.3 million to be precise!

Nationwide, declining Mass attendance is a real challenge for the church, especially among young people.

Catholic University sociologist Dean Hoge and his research team have shown that only 37 percent of young-adult Catholics think it is important to attend Mass once per week.

Whatever the reasons for the decline this past year, it is serious — not cause for alarm, but certainly cause for reflection and discussion.

I believe Jesus has the words of everlasting life. I believe the Eucharist is the bread of life. If we are followers of the Good Shepherd, maybe now is the time to go in search of the lost sheep. Somehow they have strayed from the flock.

## Pope thanks God for visit to Slovakia

BY CINDY WOODEN  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope John Paul II publicly gave thanks to God that he was able to visit Slovakia Sept. 11-14 and did so speaking in a voice that was noticeably stronger than when he was abroad.

Although he skipped a few lines of the texts in 11 languages prepared for his Sept. 17 general audience in St. Peter's Square, he did not pass any of the texts off to an aide to read as he had done in Slovakia.

Pope John Paul, who was driven to the Vatican from his summer residence at Castel Gandolfo, stayed for about an hour after the audience greeting individuals and groups, including referees from Italy's top two soccer leagues. Pierluigi Collina, who has been recognized as the world's top professional soccer referee five years in a row, was in the group.

As is customary at the first general audience after a trip, Pope John Paul devoted his main talk to reporting on his visit to Slovakia.

"I give thanks to the Lord, who for the third time allowed me to visit that noble nation," he said.

### The Pope Speaks

BY CATHOLIC  
NEWS SERVICE



The pope said he made the trip in order to confirm Slovaks in the fidelity they have had for centuries to Christ and to the church and to encourage them to maintain their Christian values in the future.

"I am sure that entering into the European Union, the Slovak people will offer a valid contribution to the construction of Europe, including on the level of values," he said.

The centerpiece of the visit, he said, was the beatification of Bishop Vasil Hopko and Sister Zdenka Schelingova, who were martyred under communism.

Celebrating the beatification Sept. 14, the feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, served as a reminder that "the Slovak people, in dramatic moments of suffering, found strength and hope in the cross of Christ."

## Letters to the Editor

### Column on track about adult faith formation

As a former director of a diocesan office of Christian formation, I want to express my appreciation for the recent editorial by Dr. Cris Villapando on the urgency for the embrace of a vibrant adult faith formation effort in all parishes ("Adult faith formation: Antidote to five myths in the Catholic Church," Sept. 12).

Pope John Paul II has often underlined the development of effective adult programs as central to all catechesis. This concern has been echoed in the Vatican publication of the General Directory for Catechesis and the pastoral letter by the U.S. bishops.

Many Catholics, especially those whose catechetical roots are found in pre-Vatican II approaches, still see their Catholic identity as established by attendance at Sunday and holy day liturgies and monthly confessions. Dr. Villapando, with his succinct delineation of five myths about adult faith formation, confronts each of us with the rich Gospel image of our call to discipleship. Faith formation is the road to that discipleship with its intertwined components of holiness and service to others, each dependent upon continuing growth through conversion.

By listing his five myths, Dr. Villapando has removed many of the

rationales we tend to use to excuse ourselves from communal efforts toward faith formation — perhaps better phrased as efforts toward growth in spirituality. Implicit in his brief presentation is the church's teaching that we are saved as a people — that we go to God together.

*The Catholic News & Herald* and Dr. Villapando have done their jobs. The question now is what will each of us do in our parishes to make the discipleship model that Dr. Villapando presents the natural development of our being nourished by the eucharistic liturgy, the source and summit of our spiritual lives?

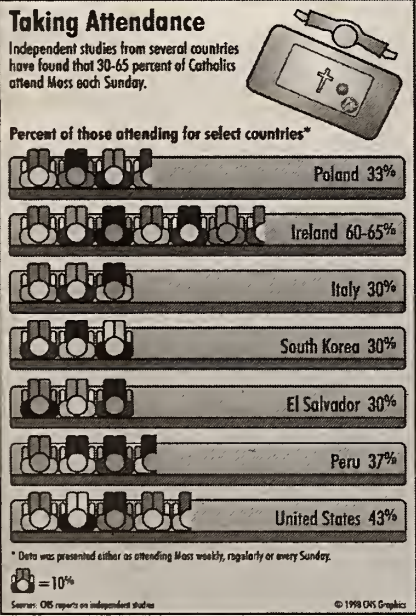
Thomas Mahan, Ph.D.  
Brevard

### WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

*The Catholic News & Herald* welcomes letters from readers. We ask that letters be originals of 250 words or less.

To be considered for publication, each letter must include the name, address and phone number of the writer for purpose of verification. Letters may be condensed due to space limitations and edited for clarity, style and taste.

Send letters to Letters to the Editor, *The Catholic News & Herald*, P.O. Box 37267, Charlotte, N.C. 28237, or e-mail catholicnews@charlottediocese.org.



Like many dioceses, Washington takes a count in October because it is a "normal" month. There are no major holidays and extended vacations, which might distort the numbers.

Our October 2002 decline was the first since 1994.

One probably would expect a modest increase in attendance each year in the Washington region, which has a fast-growing general population, including a large Hispanic immigrant population.

Mass attendance over the past 10 years had inched up 2 or 3 percent each year, consistent with overall population growth. Therefore, a decline of 7.55 percent is serious. It is actually a reversal of more than 9 percent to 10 percent because it wiped out our typical 2- or 3-percent increase.

What is our response to this decrease? Nothing so far.

In 1997, Sunday Mass attendance went up just over 5 percent. We were



# Do you have a loving heart?

We all have special gifts, dispensed in accordance with the Divine Wisdom. Some, St. Paul tells us, have the gift of healing; others the power of miracles or prophesy, or the gift of tongues or the ability to interpret them. Above all, he continues: "There are three gifts that last: faith, hope and love, and the greatest of these is love."

Do you have a loving heart? If you do not, then be assured, it is yours for the asking. Ask Jesus, and then do whatever He tells you.

A biographer of St. Francis of Assisi tells of an occasion when Francis came upon Brother Juniper and found him to be in a particularly sad frame of mind. Poor Brother Juniper was a little short of brainpower, it must be acknowledged; it seemed he could never do anything right. In fact, he was so dumb that when Francis came upon him, he had just tried to cook a rabbit-dinner without first skinning the rabbits. Brother Juniper was deep in sorrowful thought over his stupidity and his utter uselessness to his confreres.

Francis had a different view. "Cheer up, Brother Juniper," he said, "Don't you know that you possess the greatest gift of all: a loving heart?"

In addition to a loving heart, we need to keep our feet on earth while longing for heaven. Since the dawn of human curiosity, we have climbed mountains and gazed into the night sky wondering whether there is life somewhere out there; hoping, or perhaps fearing that we are not alone in the universe.

## Guest Column

FATHER JOHN  
AURILIA,  
OFM Cap



Today's scientists enlist the latest technology in an effort to communicate with the humans-beyond-the-moon.

We are challenged first to communicate with one another here on earth. We are tempted to climb the mountains and forget the beauty of the valley, where we are now. We see freedom, knowledge, mastery and mystery above and we forget the care, sorrow, joy, limitations and success beneath the sky. The heights and the last frontiers may have the gift of mystery; the valleys, however, have the gift of fellowship and service. You work where you are now, to get to the heights later! The reality check is more important than the thrill of success.

At one point during the Civil War, President Lincoln's cabinet was confronted with the uncovering of a Washington spy ring providing key information to the Confederacy. Not only was the president concerned about the security issues involved, he was also deeply distressed at the disloyalty and subterfuge of so many he thought was a supporter.

After all the evidence was presented, the secretary of war turned to Lincoln and asked for orders. Lincoln, who had said nothing during the meeting, was visibly disturbed. He expressed his feeling with a story about the dilemma faced by an old farmer who had a massive shade tree that stood for many years against the test of time. One morning while at work in his garden, the farmer saw a squirrel run up the tree into a tree hole. The farmer went to investigate, fearing the worst. Sure enough, he discovered that the stately tree, so prized for its grandeur and beauty, was hollow from top to bottom. Only a rim of solid wood remained, barely enough to support the tree's weight. What was the farmer to do? If he cut the tree down, it would do considerable damage with its great length and spreading branches. If he let it remain, a storm or strong wind could topple it, crushing his house and killing everyone inside. Turning away, he cursed, "I wish I had never seen that squirrel!"

Being rooted in reality makes us aware of the awesome mystery surrounding our limited knowledge and leads us into true faith and love. A famous atheist, Clarence Darron, once said in a debate, "They tell me there is a God, but I have never seen Him, I have no personal acquaintance with Him." To which his opponent replied, "It is credibly reported that Mr. Darron has a mind, but I have never seen it, I have never touched it, I have no personal acquaintance with it."

Instead of saying, "I wish I had never seen that squirrel," let's say "I wish I had a loving heart." The squirrel is there, we like it or not!

# A perspective on new, young priests

## The Human Side

FATHER  
EUGENE HEMRICK  
CNS COLUMNIST



"A young cleric just out of a seminary often looks out from the pulpit during that first sermon and sees a flock that looks to be the age of parents and grandparents. The congregants looking back often see a person the age of someone they used to bounce on their knee."

As I continued to the next paragraph in the article "New Clerics Seek Ways to Reach Aging Flocks," by Marek Fuchs of the New York Times, I broke into laughter because of the memories it evoked of my early priesthood.

When I was ordained, I was bursting with the knowledge I had accumulated over 12 years of study. Fresh from the books, my first homilies came straight out of them. People were very kind to me, and would say, "Father, that was a great homily," then add, "very profound," meaning, "I didn't understand a word."

A friend of mine, a plumber, would chide me on Saturdays not to forget the double S on Sunday: "Keep it simple, stupid!"

During those early days, I ran marathons and often used them as examples in my homilies. I would talk about the runner's high and gutting out the last miles. No doubt it resonated with young people, but I wonder what older people were thinking, some of whom were happy if they could just get out of bed in the morning.

It's so easy when you feel healthy and strong to preach homilies that only speak to the healthy, overlooking those who have a much greater strength that we seldom acknowledge: the strength to face serious illness bravely.

One Good Friday, I started my homily talking about the Mount of Olives and then proceeded to describe, in detail, every movement Christ made from there to Calvary. One of the priests I lived with commented, "At the rate you were going, we thought you were going to talk about each of the cobblestones Christ walked on."

I never will forget receiving a call in the middle of the night from a parishioner, who said her daughter had died. As I was rushing out I woke the other priest assistant, who asked where I was going. When I told him, he said, "She doesn't have a daughter." I called the parishioner back and learned that the daughter who had died was her cat.

In observing the mistakes of young priests, my first reaction is to correct them. No doubt this is the reaction of parishioners too. But before doing any correcting, don't forget that we were once like them.

# 'First parents' besides Adam and Eve?

*Q. You have explained in the past that Catholic teaching does not rule out the possibility of other "first parents" than Adam and Eve. I can accept that. In fact, I don't know how you could understand the story of creation in Genesis any other way.*

*Cain, supposedly Adam's and Eve's first child, fears someone will kill him after he kills Abel (Gn 4:14), and then goes to the "land of Nod" where he marries a wife and establishes a city (4:16-17). God must therefore have made other people than Adam and Eve to start things off.*

*My problem is Bible passages such as St. Paul's remark, "Through one man (Adam) sin entered the world" (Romans 5:12). How do we explain such a statement if there were other original human ancestors? (New York)*

A. First of all, the various literary traditions that went into the formation of the Genesis creation stories were not addressing anthropological questions such as polygenism — that is, whether there were more than one "first parents."

Whether there were 20 or 200 such ancestors, or where they came from, has little to do with the theological intent of the biblical story of God's creation, which was put together in the form we have it only a few hundred years before Christ.

That story is meant to convey some

essential truths of our faith — that the world, including our human family, owes its existence to creation by the one true God; that as it came into existence, the earth was good and intended for human happiness; that whatever moral evils exist on earth result from people's own stubbornness and sinfulness; and that even in the beginning God had a plan eventually to save us from that sinfulness.

Now to your question. Preachers and writers commonly use the device of referring to well-known characters to make a point, with no intention of declaring judgment on the actual existence of those characters. When a priest in a homily, for example, refers to the Prodigal Son or to the Lion King as in some ways a figure of Christ, he is not professing a belief that these people or animals really existed. They fit the point to be made, and that's all their mention means.

When Jesus, for example, said that as Jonah was in the belly of the whale three days, so he would be in the tomb for three days, he wasn't declaring a belief that poor Jonah actually lived three days in a whale's stomach. He knew the Jonah story was well-known to his audience, so he used it to illustrate his coming resurrection.

Thus Jesus did it, and so did Paul. If reference to a familiar Scripture story could help, they didn't hesitate to use it.

## Question Corner

FATHER JOHN  
DIETZEN  
CNS COLUMNIST



In his 1950 encyclical "Humani Generis," Pope Pius XII referred to some doctrinal and scriptural problems with polygenism, some of which have been resolved, incidentally, in the 53 years since. At the time, he said Catholics should not hold that opinion (polygenism) as a fact since "it is not apparent" how this opinion is compatible with certain Catholic teachings.

It is commonly acknowledged, therefore, that "Humani Generis" labels the belief in more than one "Adam and Eve" a conjectural opinion. It does not call that opinion erroneous or heretical. This concurs with current Catholic teaching concerning biblical interpretation.

*A free brochure describing basic Catholic prayers, beliefs and moral precepts is available by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope to Father John Dietzen, Box 325, Peoria, IL 61651.*

*Questions may be sent to Father Dietzen at the same address, or e-mail: jjdietzen@aol.com.*



# St. Thomas Aquinas provides home for growing University-area Catholics

CHARLOTTE — During the 1970s, Catholics in the area of the University of North Carolina at Charlotte celebrated Mass in dormitories, apartments, a Lutheran church and a rest home chapel.

Consulate priests ministered to Catholic students at UNC-Charlotte prior to the founding of the Diocese of Charlotte in 1972. By the mid-1970s, students were being ministered by Oblate Father Joseph Travers, then-Catholic campus minister.

When the diocese announced plans to establish its ninth parish in the city, Father Travers was chosen to lead the parish. He began preparing to build a church with money donated by an anonymous benefactor. Catholics from northern Mecklenburg and southern Cabarrus counties were invited to join the students as the founding members of the new parish.

Oblate Father Joseph Zuschmidt succeeded Father Travers in August 1978, and building efforts continued. A nearby house was purchased that month for use as a rectory, and the 250-seat church was completed in March 1979. Bishop Michael J. Begley, then-bishop of Charlotte, dedicated the structure in April, giving the St. Thomas Aquinas community official parish status. The registry jumped from 15 to 40 families.

By the mid-1980s, booming growth in north Charlotte led to the need for larger worship space for St. Thomas Aquinas parishioners. Construction began in 1984 and a multi-purpose building with worship space for 350 people was dedicated March 31, 1985. The new church served parishioners well for a few years, but it was outgrown by decade's end as the parish grew to nearly 1,000 families.

Father Ray Berg was pastor during the third groundbreaking ceremony in June 1994, and construction proceeded during the pastorate of Msgr. John McSweeney. At the invitation of then-Bishop William G. Curlin, Capuchin Franciscan Friars assumed responsibility of the parish in January 1995. Capuchin Father Ignatius Zampino became pastor and Capuchin Father Thomas Crangle became associate pastor.

Bishop Curlin dedicated the new 1,116-seat sanctuary for the 1,300 registered families in November of that year. The original church is now used as the parish office, and the second building is utilized as Aquinas Hall, the parish social center.

Church furnishings that once adorned the sanctuary at St. Francis Seminary in Newton, N.J. include a three-ton marble altar, the tabernacle and its altar, a sanctuary lamp, holy water fonts and Stations of the Cross. New York craftsman Don Shephard designed the items, which placed first in a liturgical art competition in the Vatican pavilion at the 1964-65 World's Fair in New York.

Shephard also designed the church's stained glass windows, originally

**St. Thomas Aquinas Church**  
1400 Suther Road  
Charlotte, N.C. 28213  
(704) 549-1607

**Pastor:** Capuchin Father Ignatius Zampino  
**Parochial Vicars:** Capuchin Father Martin Schratz, Capuchin Father Stanley Kobel  
**Permanent Deacons:** Rev. Mr. Carl Macero, Rev. Mr. Mark Nash

Number of Families: 2,500



Capuchin Father Ignatius Zampino

crafted for St. Francis Seminary.

A large crucifix above the altar was another new highlight. Crafted by a local parishioner, the wooden cross measures more than 15 feet in height. Hanging from it is a seven-foot-tall, custom-made corpus of Christ from Italy, designed in the San Damiano style.

In February 1997, Bishop Curlin dedicated the Family Life Center, which includes 16 classrooms, offices and a regulation-size gymnasium to host the parish's faith formation program, pre-school and athletic groups.

That year, Capuchin Father Martin Schratz was assigned as parochial vicar, and parish RCIA programs have blossomed under his guidance. In 1998, Capuchin Father Stanley Kobel was also assigned as parochial vicar and he has helped the youth program to flourish.

In March 1999, Dominican Sisters Anastacia Pagulayan and Sister Bernadita Dandoy assumed the duties as director of faith formation and of the pre-school programs, respectively. A convent was purchased this year behind the Family Life Center.

In 2000, a columbarium in the parish garden was blessed. In 2003, Sister Bernadita left the parish and Sister Jennifer Ober and Sister Jean Bunda joined the staff; the parish mortgage was paid off and the Family Life Center was renamed the Father Ignatius Zampino Family Life Center. Also in recent years, Rev. Mr. Carl Macero and Rev. Mr. Mark Nash joined the parish as permanent deacons.

With the parish now numbering 2,500 families, St. Thomas Aquinas Church can expect continued spiritual growth in a continually expanding area of Charlotte.



FILE PHOTO

St. Thomas Aquinas Church, which celebrates its 25th anniversary this year, is the third church built on the site and seats over 1,100 people.

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## FAITH

—a challenge to Catholics to renew and deepen their relationship with the Lord.

**RALPH MARTIN**

Ralph is the founding President of Renewal Ministries, a Catholic mission organization, and hosts a popular weekly television series, *The Choices We Face*. Ralph is also the founding editor of *New Covenant* magazine and author of several books. He presently leads *The Word of God*, an ecumenical Christian community in Ann Arbor, Michigan.



## CLOSING LITURGY

CELEBRANT & HOMILIST

**MOST REV. ROBERT J. BAKER, STD** Bishop Baker is shepherd to Catholics throughout the state of South Carolina. He has served as a pastor, counselor, mentor, and professor during his priesthood and was appointed as the 12th Bishop of Charleston in 1999 by Pope John Paul II.



"My hope and prayer is that all who attend the FIRE Rally will experience a deeper conversion, a greater desire for reconciliation, and a willingness to be more fully involved in the New Evangelization to which our Holy Father has called us in the new millennium."

—Most Reverend Robert J. Baker, STD  
Bishop of Charleston

## INTERCESSION

—a call to united prayer as our most important spiritual weapon available for renewing the face of the earth.

**SR. ANN SHIELDS, SGL**

Sr. Ann is the superior of the Servants of God's Love in Lansing, Michigan, and is a regular co-host on the television program, *The Choices We Face*. She also hosts a radio program, *Food for the Journey*. She is the author of several books, including *Fire in My Heart*, and is a frequent conference speaker.



## REPENTANCE

—an exhortation to turn away from sin to a Christ-centered, Spirit-filled life.

**FR. MICHAEL SCANLAN, TOR**

Fr. Michael is the Chancellor and former President of Franciscan University of Steubenville, Ohio, and was ordained in 1964. In 1990, he was awarded the Cross Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice by Pope John Paul II. He has authored several books including his autobiography, *Let the Fire Fall*.



## EVANGELISM

—an invitation to spread the Good News of salvation and the gift of authentic Catholicism.

**PETER HERBECK**

Peter is Director of Missions at Renewal Ministries and has served numerous retreats, conferences, rallies, and events around the world. Much of his work has been devoted to helping equip Catholics for ministry through training in the exercise of spiritual gifts. Peter and his wife Debbie have four children and live in Ann Arbor, Michigan.



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